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The Washington Post

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Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 · **$3**

U.S. moves to swap prisoners with Iran

Biden clears way to free frozen oil funds to aid release of five Americans

BY **JOHN HUDSON**

The Biden administration has issued a waiver for banks to transfer $6 billion in frozen Iranian oil funds without fear of U.S. sanctions — a key step in securing the release of five American citizens detained in Iran, people familiar with the matter said. As a part of the arrangement, the administration will release five Iranian citizens detained in the United States.

Congress was notified of the move on Monday and it's likely to come as a relief to U.S. prisoners' families and supporters, many of whom have waited several years for the return of the detainees. It also is expected to come under harsh criticism from Republicans in Congress opposed to any agreement that allows for the release of frozen Iranian funds, money that is being transferred from South Korea to Qatar and limited for the purchase of humanitarian goods like food or medicine.

The deal marks a major breakthrough for the longtime adversaries who remain at loggerheads over a range of issues, including the rapid expansion of Tehran's nuclear program, its ongoing military support for Russia and Iran's harsh crackdown on dissent. Though it remains unclear when the two sides could complete the prisoner transfer, Monday's announcement comes as President Biden and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi each prepare to travel to New York for the annual U.N. General Assembly

SEE **IRAN** ON **A2**

22 years of grieving 9/11



SHAWN THEW/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

First responders salute as the American flag is unfurled at the Pentagon in Arlington during a ceremony to remember the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. President Biden, speaking to an audience of service members and their families in Alaska, marked the anniversary by calling for unity among Americans. **Story, A3; Photos, A24**

Morocco rescue efforts turn into recovery missions

As toll nears 3,000, rescuers find only bodies in quake-ravaged villages

BY **CLAIRE PARKER, SIMA DIAB, LOVEDAY MORRIS AND KAREEM FAHIM**

TALAT N'YAAQOUB, MOROCCO — The death toll from Morocco's devastating earthquake neared 3,000 people, the government announced Monday, as international rescuers arrived and the tremendous obstacles facing emergency workers — struggling to reach those trapped under rubble, in remote mountain hamlets, along roads blocked by landslides — burst into view.



CARL COURT/GETTY IMAGES

A woman is overcome with grief as the body of her husband is removed from beneath a collapsed house in Douzrou, Morocco.

Washington Post reporters toured a string of devastated villages in the High Atlas Mountains south of Marrakesh: from Asni, in the foothills, where the military had set up a field hospital, to the Ouirgane reservoir, where more than half a dozen members of one family were killed, to Talat N'Yaaqoub, where the destruction seemed total and the smell of death was everywhere.

Friday's 6.8-magnitude earthquake, the strongest to strike Morocco in more than a century, has killed at least 2,862 people and injured more than 2,500 — ravaging communities already struggling with poverty and isolation. On Sunday, the Moroccan government said it had accepted some foreign assistance for the rescue mission, including from Spain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Britain.

But other governments, including Germany, suggested that their offers of assistance had been met with silence, causing puzzlement and consternation, given the size of the challenge and the shrinking time left to find survivors.

A 50-person team from Germany's Federal Agency for Technical Relief assembled at Cologne Bonn Airport over the

SEE **MOROCCO** ON **A10**

Puzzling reluctance: Country has been slow to accept foreign aid. **A11**

Powerful storm: Floodwaters inundate Libyan towns. **A16**

Updated covid vaccine on way

FDA APPROVES SHOT; CDC EXPECTED NEXT

New dose should arrive before seasonal illnesses

BY **LAURIE MCGINLEY AND LENA H. SUN**

The Food and Drug Administration on Monday approved a reformulated coronavirus vaccine in a bid to provide increased protection ahead of cooler weather — even as the nation experiences a late-summer uptick of covid-19 cases and hospitalizations.

The shots, which target an omicron subvariant and were cleared for everyone 6 months and older, are manufactured by Moderna and by Pfizer and its German partner, BioNTech. If the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention signs off Tuesday, injections could be available in pharmacies, clinics and doctor's offices by the end of the week.

The FDA decides who *can* get a shot, but it's the CDC that recommends who *should* get it. That question has been vigorously debated by agency officials and its outside experts in recent days.

The CDC is leaning toward a broad recommendation that covers almost all ages, mirroring the FDA approach, according to federal officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly. But it is possible that some on the agency's panel of outside experts, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, will push for a targeted recommendation focused on those at greatest risk — older Americans or people with weakened immune systems or other illnesses. The committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday on the matter and CDC Director Mandy Cohen is expected to weigh in shortly afterward, the final step in allowing the new shot to be administered.

The big question is whether

SEE **VACCINE** ON **A7**

FAQ: What to know about the new FDA-approved vaccination. **A7**

House returns, with tests for speaker

Decisions on budget and impeachment may imperil McCarthy's gavel

BY **MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR, LEIGH ANN CALDWELL AND JACQUELINE ALEMANY**

The House reconvenes Tuesday with a pressing deadline to fund the government and avert a shutdown, a priority that threatens the power of Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) and is complicated by the growing thirst among some Republicans to launch an impeachment inquiry into President Biden.

Funding the government by Sept. 30 will be the greatest hurdle to date for the fragile House Republican majority and McCarthy's chances of keeping his speaker's gavel. Passing conservative funding bills while juggling calls for impeachment could unite the conference around McCarthy — or splinter it further, according to several Republicans, who, like others, spoke on the condition of anonymity to outline ongoing negotiations. And there is no clear path forward that would mollify all

SEE **HOUSE** ON **A4**



ANSON CHAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

GAME, SET, FIX

Second in a two-part series

THE UNRAVELING

An officer volunteered for an unpopular case and broke the biggest match-fixing ring in tennis

BY **KEVIN SIEFF** IN BRUSSELS

The briefing took place in a conference room at the federal prosecutor's office. A strange tip had arrived from Belgium's gambling commission.

Officials had noticed irregular wagers on obscure tennis matches played around the world. The bets were made in small towns in the Flemish countryside. The gamblers appeared to be acting on inside information; they consistently won even when they bet against steep odds.

At the time, the finding seemed mundane. But it would later help unravel the largest match-fixing scandal in the history of tennis — the world's most manipulated sport, according to investigators and betting regulators.

Nicolas Borremans, a 45-year-old police investigator based in the Flanders region of Belgium, looked around the conference room. He could tell that none of his colleagues wanted the case. Sports-related investigations were often dismissed as insignificant. This one — revolving around a few small wagers — was a particularly tough sell. But Borremans believed that the links between sports gambling and organized crime were strengthening in Belgium. And there was something intriguing about this set of facts.

"I'll take the case," he told the room.

SEE **TENNIS** ON **A12**

IN THE NEWS

Teaching tools Giants such as Google and Meta are training their AI software with user data. Consumers can do little to stop it. **A18**

Streaming sex acts Susanna Gibson, a Democrat running for a seat in Virginia's House of Delegates, performed with her husband on a website and solicited tips. **B1**

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President Biden has bucked precedent by launching a major ad buy in swing states. A6

THE WORLD

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Kim Jong Un and Vladimir Putin are expected to meet to discuss an arms deal. A15

THE ECONOMY

How a potential strike by workers at Ford, General Motors and Stellantis could affect the price of vehicles. A19

J.M. Smucker has agreed to acquire Hostess for $5.6 billion, bringing together two of the biggest names in snack food. A20

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Amtrak presented its case for seizing control of D.C.'s Union Station, arguing that a takeover is necessary to modernize the train hub. B1

Nearly three decades after the slaying of a 37-year-old mother, Fairfax County police made an arrest in the case. B1

STYLE

Sen. Tim Scott, a GOP presidential candidate, is unmarried. Does that still matter to voters? C1

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A former CIA analyst's hospitalization while on vacation in Iceland led to the identification of an unusual malady that had long plagued him. E1

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U.S. advances deal with Iran to swap prisoners, free frozen oil funds

IRAN FROM A1

next week.

Amid the prisoner release talks, the United States and Iran have been discussing a possible informal arrangement that would seek to place some limitations on Iran's nuclear program and avoid an international crisis. U.S. officials have insisted, however, that those talks are unrelated to the prisoner-exchange negotiations.

The U.S. prisoners held by Iran include Siamak Namazi, an Iranian American who had been behind bars in Tehran for nearly eight years, the longest duration the Islamic republic has jailed any American. Others include Morad Tahbaz, an Iranian American who also holds British citizenship, and Emad Shargi, an American Iranian dual citizen. Each was released from Iran's notorious Evin Prison last month in an initial step of the deal.

Two other American detainees involved in the swap have not been named at the request of their families.

While the five American detainees remain in Iran, the waiver decision, first reported by the Associated Press, tees up the prisoners' full release, which could happen as early as next week amid the high-profile U.N. gathering, according to people familiar with the matter. They spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive details.

South Korea, one of Iran's largest oil customers, has held $6 billion in Iranian funds as a result of a waiver issued by the Trump administration in 2018 that allowed Seoul to continue purchasing Iran's oil. Those funds became stuck in 2019 when the Trump administration tightened sanctions on Iran.

The new waiver, signed by Secretary of State Antony Blinken, is aimed at providing assurances to foreign banks that they will not be subject to U.S. sanctions for converting and transferring to Qatar Iran's funds in South Korea. Under the arrangement, Iranian funds in Qatar's central bank can be used only to purchase items from vetted providers of humanitarian goods and services allowed under existing sanctions.

"These funds will be moved to restricted accounts in Qatar, and the United States will have oversight as to how and when these funds are used," the State Department said in a statement Monday. "It is longstanding U.S. policy to ensure our sanctions do not prevent food, medicine, and other humanitarian goods and services from flowing to ordinary people, no matter how objectionable their governments."

Despite those restrictions, Republicans remain opposed to the deal, saying the unfreezing of funds "creates a direct incentive for America's adversaries to conduct future hostage-taking," Rep. Michael McCaul (Tex.), the top Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said in a statement following the administration's notification to Congress.

McCaul added that the timing of the deal, ahead of the Sept. 16 anniversary of the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old woman who died in the custody of Iran's morality police and ignited nationwide demonstrations, was "particularly egregious."

Besides its clampdown on internal criticism last year, Iran has come under criticism for providing Russia powerful self-detonating drones that the Kremlin has used in its invasion of Ukraine.

The State Department said the Biden administration would continue to "counter the Iranian regime's human rights abuses, destabilizing actions abroad, its support for terrorism, and its support for Russia's war against Ukraine."

Before the prisoner deal, the Biden administration's rapport with Tehran has been marked by deep distrust and the failure to revive a nuclear deal that Biden vowed to renew when he ran for president. Tehran has repeatedly refused to talk directly with Washington, requiring third parties to help broker discussions.

Qatar played a significant role in facilitating discussions between the two sides over the detainees' release and hosting the talks, said officials familiar with the matter. Switzerland, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Iraq also played a role.

European allies, who broadly support a revised deal to restrain Tehran's nuclear program, hope that progress on detainees could help pave the way for more productive nuclear discussions.

Iran's nuclear program has expanded significantly following the decision by Donald Trump to pull the United States out of the 2015 nuclear deal. The accord, forged by the Obama administration, imposed strict limitations on Iran's program in exchange for sanctions relief.

Karen DeYoung contributed to this report.



STEFAN ROUSSEAU/AP

Roxanne Tahbaz holds a picture of her father, Morad Tahbaz, who is jailed in Iran, during a protest in London in 2022. Tahbaz is one of five American detainees who are involved in the prisoner swap.

Trump lawyers demand recusal by judge in D.C. Jan. 6 trial

BY SPENCER S. HSU AND RACHEL WEINER

Attorneys for Donald Trump on Monday asked U.S. District Judge Tanya S. Chutkan to disqualify herself from presiding over Trump's federal election obstruction case, saying Chutkan appears to have prejudged the former president's guilt based on statements she made in past cases involving Jan. 6, 2021, riot defendants.

"Although Judge Chutkan may genuinely intend to give President Trump a fair trial — and may believe that she can do so — her public statements unavoidably taint these proceedings," Trump attorney John F. Lauro wrote in the recusal motion.

"The public will reasonably and understandably question whether Judge Chutkan arrived at all of her decisions in this matter impartially," the motion said, adding that "the law and the overwhelming public interest in the integrity of this historic proceeding require recusal."

By law, federal judges are supposed to disqualify themselves from any proceeding in which their "impartiality might reasonably be questioned," or in which they have "a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party."

However, the law leaves it up to the judges themselves to decide after hearing from both sides. Chutkan gave prosecutors until Thursday to respond to the motion, and Trump's defense until Sunday to make any reply. If Chutkan refuses the request, Trump's defense lawyers may appeal.

The question is not necessarily what judges have said in other court proceedings but their fairness toward a specific defendant in a specific case, legal analysts said.

A unanimous U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1994 that "only in the rarest circumstances" can a judge be forced to recuse from a case based on "opinions formed … on the basis of facts introduced or events occurring" in court.

Recusal can be required, Justice Antonin Scalia wrote, if a judge "display[s] a deep-seated favoritism or antagonism that would make fair judgment impossible."

Trump faces four federal counts in Washington in connection with his efforts to overturn Joe Biden's 2020 election victory. He is separately charged in state court in Georgia with attempting to obstruct the election results in that state; in federal court in Florida with mishandling classified documents after leaving the White House; and in state court in New York with falsifying business records in connection with hush money payments during the 2016 election. He has pleaded not guilty in all four cases.

In seeking Chutkan's recusal in the D.C. case, Trump's lawyers quoted from statements she made at sentencing hearings for two people convicted in the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol.

People in the mob "were there in fealty, in loyalty, to one man — not to the Constitution," Chutkan said at a hearing in October, adding — in a line that Trump's attorneys italicized for emphasis — "It's a blind loyalty *to one person who, by the way, remains free to this day.*"

The former president's attorneys also pointed to the judge's statement at a sentencing hearing for a different defendant in December 2021, long before Trump and his inner circle were under active investigation. "The people who may be the people who planned this and funded it and encouraged it haven't been charged," she said then, agreeing with a statement a defense lawyer had made. Then she added: "But that's not a reason for you to get a lower sentence."

Lauro wrote that the meaning of Chutkan's statement in the first case "is inescapable — President Trump is free, but should not be." He called that "an apparent prejudgment of guilt" that should be disqualifying.

Chutkan's comments in the second case, Lauro wrote, "reflect her apparent opinion that President Trump's conduct: (1) occurred, and (2) supports charges." He noted that Chutkan went on to say at that hearing: "The issue of who has or has not been charged is not before me. I don't have any influence on that. I have my opinions, but they are not relevant."

Stephen Gillers, a legal ethics professor at New York University School of Law, said views that a judge expresses at the sentencing of one defendant "cannot be the basis for recusing them in the case of a different defendant."

"Judges are expected to form views after hearing evidence," Gillers said. "That's the nature of the job. And judges are trusted not to let those views bias them against other defendants."

But Charles Wolfram, a scholar of legal ethics at Cornell University, said that comments made by a judge in one case can create an untenable appearance of bias in another. "I think it's close to the line," Wolfram said. "It's a plausible argument for Trump to be making."

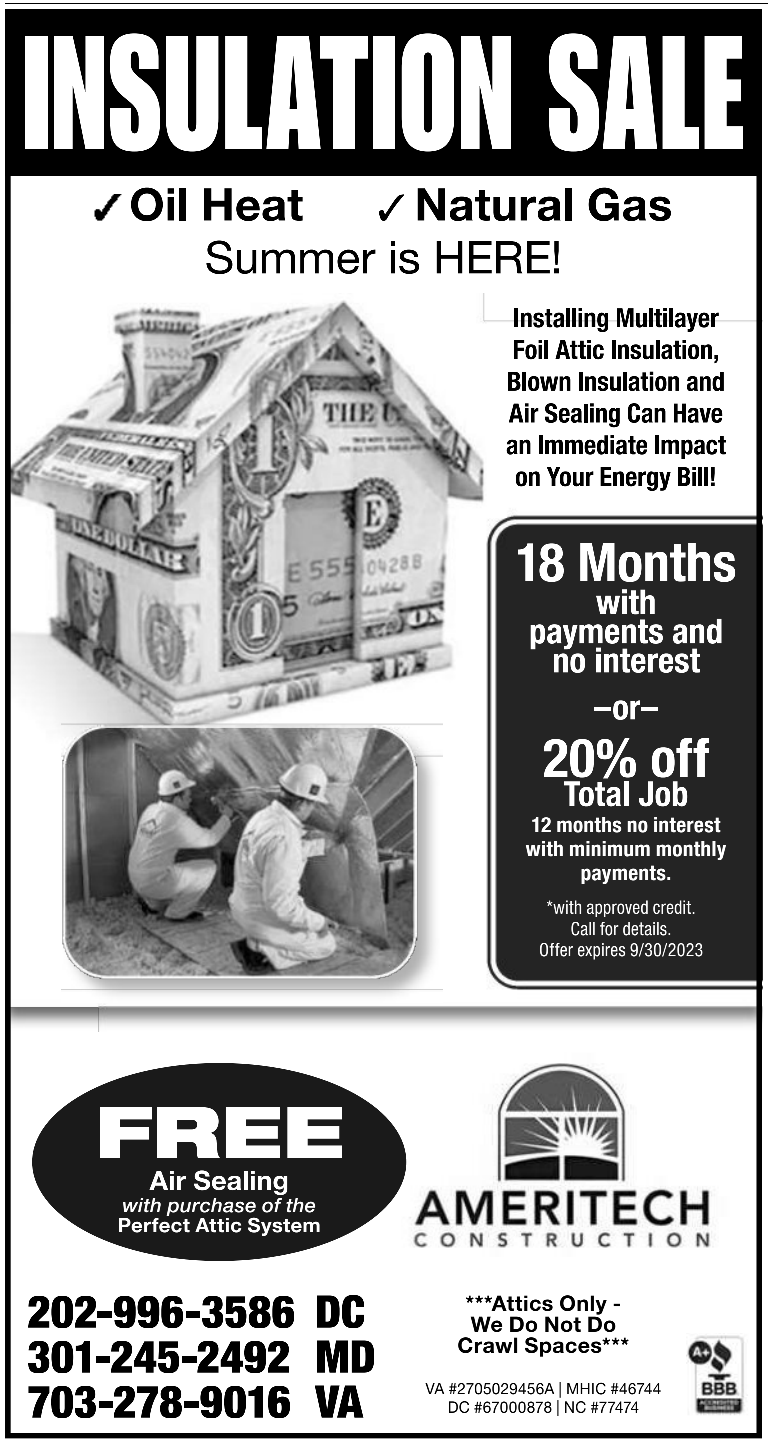
More than 1,100 Jan. 6 riot participants have been charged at the federal courthouse in Washington, and many other judges involved in those cases — appointed by presidents of both parties — have made similar comments during those proceedings.

District Judge Amit P. Mehta said one rioter was "a pawn in a game that's played and directed by people who should know better." Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly said another "followed then-President Trump's instructions." Judge Rudolph Contreras has said at multiple sentencings, "The events of January 6th involved the rather unprecedented confluence of events spurred by then-President Trump and a number of his prominent allies who bear much responsibility for what occurred on that day."

Judge Amy Berman Jackson has cited as a reason to keep some rioters behind bars the fact that Trump "continues to propagate the lie that inspired the attack on a near daily basis." And Judge John D. Bates wrote that "one might conclude" Trump "was urging protesters to … enter the Capitol building and stop the certification." Judge Reggie B. Walton called Trump a "charlatan" who "doesn't in my view really care about democracy but only about power."

Mehta, Contreras and Jackson were appointed by Barack Obama, Kollar-Kotelly by Bill Clinton and Bates and Walton by George W. Bush.

Trump has made similar recusal requests before, including in New York, where he is scheduled for trial in March.



DIGEST

NEW MEXICO

Sheriff vows to ignore governor's gun ban

The sheriff in New Mexico's largest metro area vowed Monday not to enforce an emergency order by the governor to temporarily suspend the right to carry firearms in public in and around the city of Albuquerque.

"It's unconstitutional, so there's no way we can enforce that order," Bernalillo County Sheriff John Allen said during a news conference. "This ban does nothing to curb gun violence."

Reaction has been swift after Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D) announced the order Friday, telling reporters that she expected legal challenges and that state police would handle enforcement.

"I welcome the debate and fight about how to make New Mexicans safer," she said, while also acknowledging that criminals surely would ignore her order.

Bernalillo County District Attorney Sam Bregman (D), who was appointed by Lujan Grisham, joined Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller and Police Chief Harold Medina in saying they too would not enforce it. A gun rights group filed a federal lawsuit within 24 hours seeking an immediate court order to block the order from taking effect.

Republican state lawmakers also have proposed initiating impeachment proceedings against the governor, a move that would require buy-in from the Democrats who control the state Legislature.

Lujan Grisham said she was compelled to issue her order following recent shootings, including the death of an 11-year-old boy outside a minor league baseball stadium last week, the gunfire death of a 5-year-old girl who was asleep in a motor home and an August shooting death in Taos County of a 13-year-old girl.

The firearms suspension was issued as an emergency public health order, reminiscent of the much-protested public health orders she continually renewed throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

The governor said the gun ban would apply for 30 days to open and concealed carry in most public places and tied it to a threshold for violent crime rates only met in metropolitan Albuquerque. Police and licensed security guards are exempt. Violators could face civil penalties and a fine of up to $5,000, gubernatorial spokeswoman Caroline Sweeney said.

— Associated Press

ILLINOIS

8 hurt in explosion, fire at soybean plant

An explosion and fire at a soybean processing facility injured eight employees over the weekend and sent a tower of smoke into the air, officials said Monday.

The explosion occurred at the east plant in the Archer Daniels Midland processing complex shortly after 7 p.m. Sunday in Decatur, about 150 miles southwest of Chicago, the agricultural company said in a statement on its website.

The explosion was followed by a large plume of dark smoke high above the facility in a video posted by WCIA-TV.

The Chicago-based company said the plant where the explosion occurred produces soybean oil and white flake for soybean protein production.

The explosion is the second episode at the plant in less than a month, the (Decatur) Herald & Review reported.

On Aug. 28, two Decatur firefighters were sent to the hospital after they battled a large fire at the plant. In that instance, crews found fire in a processing tank that was spreading into adjacent tanks.

— Associated Press

HAWAII

Kilauea erupts after two months of quiet

Kilauea, one of the most active volcanoes in the world, began erupting after a two-month pause, displaying glowing lava that is a safe distance from people and structures in a national park on Hawaii's Big Island.

The Hawaii Volcano Observatory said the eruption was observed Sunday afternoon at the summit of Kilauea.

The observatory said gases released by the eruption will cause volcanic smog downwind of Kilauea. People living near the park should try to avoid volcanic particles spewed into the air by the eruption, the observatory said.

The volcano's alert level was raised to warning status and the aviation color code went to red as scientists evaluate the eruption and associated hazards.

In June, Kilauea erupted for several weeks, displaying fountains of red lava without threatening any communities or structures.

Kilauea erupted from September 2021 until last December. A 2018 Kilauea eruption destroyed more than 700 homes.

— Associated Press

POLITICS & THE NATION

Biden commemorates 9/11 attacks by denouncing division, urging unity

President references friendship with McCain in remarks in Alaska

BY AMY BUSHATZ, MERYL KORNFIELD AND MATT VISER

ANCHORAGE — President Biden on Monday used a commemoration of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to reiterate his call for unity among Americans of different political stripes, decrying divisiveness and polarization while urging all to "honor Sept. 11 by renewing our faith in one another."

Biden spoke at Alaska's Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson before an audience of service members and their families during a stopover on his return from a trip to India and Vietnam, paying tribute to those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, as well as during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I join you on this day to renew our sacred vow: Never forget. Never forget. We never forget," Biden said to about 1,100 service members and their families gathered in a large aircraft hangar. "We must not succumb to the poisonous politics of difference and division. We must never allow ourselves to be pulled apart by petty, manufactured grievances. We must continue to stand united."

Backdropped by the freshly snow-capped Chugach Mountains, Air Force One and a trio of military aircraft, Biden spoke for about 15 minutes before shaking hands and taking selfies with troops. Military members and their families were joined at the event by state and local officials, including Rep. Mary Peltola (D) and Alaska Gov. Mike Dunleavy (R).

Biden sought to tie the 9/11 remembrance to his just-concluded trip to New Delhi, where he took part in a summit of the Group of 20 major world economies, and Hanoi, where he sought to bolster the U.S.-Vietnam relationship.

"These trips are an essential part of how we ensure the United States is flanked by the broadest array of allies and partners, who will stand with us and deter any threat to our security, to build a world that is safer for all of our children — something that today of all days we're reminded of is not a given," Biden said.

Since the attacks in 2001, presidents have generally, though not always, observed the anniversary by traveling to one of the sites where the planes crashed — Lower Manhattan, the Pentagon or Shanksville, Pa. Biden's schedule, however, was affected by the long-planned G-20 summit.

Terry Strada, who lost her husband, Tom, in the World Trade Center attack, said she was surprised to hear that Biden would observe the day in Alaska.

"It's shocking to hear he won't be at Ground Zero, Shanksville or the Pentagon," said Strada, who is national chair of the 9/11 Families United. "It leads us to believe he's avoiding the 9/11 community."

White House aides said that the president cared deeply about marking the anniversary and that he observed it appropriately by meeting with service members and first responders on a military base. Other administration officials, meanwhile, did visit the crash sites: Vice President Harris traveled to New York, first lady Jill Biden visited the Pentagon, and second gentleman Douglas Emhoff took part in a wreath-laying ceremony in Shanksville.

Among the pivotal moments in Biden's presidency was his decision in August 2021 to pull U.S. troops out of Afghanistan, 20 years after the United States went into the country in response to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Biden argued that the American presence was costing lives, the objective of dismantling the terrorist threat had been met, and Americans could not remain in the country forever.

More broadly, Biden signaled that the post-9/11 phase of American history was over and that the time had come to focus on new threats, notably China. On Monday, he sought to reassure Americans that he would not overlook any terrorist threat.

"We're going to continue to track terrorist threats in all forms, wherever it may be," Biden said. "We're going to disrupt terrorist activity wherever we may find it. And I will never hesitate to do what is necessary to defend the American people."

Earlier on Monday, Biden wrapped up his trip to Vietnam with a stop at a memorial for the late Sen. John McCain (R), a longtime friend and colleague who was held as a prisoner of war for five years during the Vietnam War. Biden touched a wreath of red, white, and blue flowers that had been laid at the memorial, bowing his head. He dropped a commemorative coin and saluted before leaving.

"I miss him, I miss him," Biden said of the late Arizona senator. "He was a good friend."

In Alaska, Biden referenced that visit to the McCain memorial, stressing that he was close friends with the Arizona Republican despite their strong political differences. He recalled visiting McCain shortly before he died of brain cancer in 2018. "As I was walking out, I put my hand on his chest and he pulled me down and kissed me and said, 'I love you — will you do my eulogy?' " Biden recalled. "John and I were friends, like a lot of us who had differences."

He added: "One thing I always admired about John was how he put duty to country first. That's not hyperbole — he did. Above party, above politics, above his own person. This day reminds us we must never lose that sense of national unity."

McCain, who was tortured during his imprisonment yet refused to accept release before the other Americans who were being held there, later worked hard to normalize relations between the United States and Vietnam. Biden's visit Sunday and Monday helped solidify that relationship, capping a remarkable transformation after the bitter enmity of the Vietnam War. Biden credited McCain, as well as special envoy John F. Kerry, who also served in Vietnam, as "truly close friends" of the country in remarks at the presidential palace Monday.

The renewed alliance is based largely on a desire to push back against China's influence, and Biden spoke in Hanoi of a "new stage" in U.S.-Vietnam relations that would be marked by investment and innovation. Vietnamese President Vo Van Thuong, for his part, called the new partnership a "momentous occasion" that was "opening up a new chapter."

Some human rights activists criticized Biden's effort to move closer to Vietnam, citing Hanoi's harsh treatment of dissidents.

Reacting to Biden's event in Anchorage, Strada, the 9/11 activist, called on the president to support a bill introduced in June aimed at strengthening the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, or JASTA, a 2016 law that allowed Americans to sue foreign countries for sponsoring terrorist acts on U.S. soil.

More than 4,000 victims and family members have signed a letter urging Congress to move forward with the legislation, but Biden has not publicly supported it. Some American diplomats have expressed concern about JASTA, saying it could harm U.S. personnel if other countries enact similar laws. President Barack Obama initially vetoed it, only to see his veto overridden with a strong bipartisan vote in Congress.

On Monday, Biden sought to make broader points about American resilience and perseverance following the deadly attacks.

"We'll never forget that, when faced with evil and an enemy who sought to tear us apart, we endured," Biden said. "We endured."



EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS



ALEX BRANDON/AP

ABOVE: President Biden delivers remarks to service members and their families in Anchorage on the 22nd anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. LEFT: First lady Jill Biden walks with Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, left, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark A. Milley to place a wreath at the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial.





Fragile GOP caucus faces budget fight



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), standing at center, and other Republicans hold a news conference on July 27, before the chamber's August recess. Representatives return to Washington facing a Sept. 30 deadline to fund the government or risk a shutdown.

HOUSE FROM A1

factions.

Several lawmakers and senior aides close to leadership detailed what they see as the likeliest deal: House Republicans would pass a month-long budget extension, known as a continuing resolution, that would almost certainly include concessions to the hard right to allow time to pass individual appropriations bills throughout October.

Hanging over that discussion is a growing expectation that there could be a vote on an impeachment inquiry, though it remains unclear what exactly Republicans want to impeach Biden for, and few could predict a timeline for that decision. That path also doesn't account for the handful of lawmakers who want short-term funding and an impeachment inquiry to be tied to one vote.

Multiple people said finding a path to averting a shutdown will begin in earnest once lawmakers descend on Washington, because there have not been active negotiations over the August recess. Majority Whip Tom Emmer (R-Minn.) and Deputy Whip Guy Reschenthaler (R-Pa.) have spent the past several weeks working the phones to gauge where red lines lie for various lawmakers. Leadership will work this week to convince members that keeping the government open is good for the party and will help achieve their goals of lowering spending.

Complicating leadership's desire to begin passing appropriations bills this week is a threat from the House Freedom Caucus. Members of the hard-right group have demanded cuts to all 12 appropriations bills, further reducing government funding and ignoring an agreement on spending levels that McCarthy and President Biden reached earlier this year in a deal to raise the debt limit. Freedom Caucus members are threatening to block a procedural vote until they receive a top-line number on the overall funding allotted to fiscal 2024. Members say they have yet to see proof that all the bills fall below the threshold McCarthy and Biden set.

It is not their only demand. In an August letter, Freedom Caucus members said they would support a continuing resolution only if it includes a border security bill that Republicans passed this year, addresses "the unprecedented weaponization of the Justice Department and FBI," revokes "cancerous woke policies in the Pentagon," and does not include any funding for Ukraine. Those demands are nonstarters among senators. In the Senate, there is bipartisan support for passing a short-term funding bill that also fulfills Biden's request to allot more money for Ukraine and domestic natural-disaster relief.

Still, members of the five ideological groups within the House GOP conference say they share the goal of passing the most conservative proposals possible, to enter negotiations with the Senate on the strongest footing for both the short-term funding extension and the 12 year-long appropriations bills.

"The clock is running out, and we need to put forth the most conservative bills possible," said Rep. Kevin Hern (R-Okla.), who chairs the Republican Study Committee.

Congress must also address several reauthorization deadlines by the end of the month, including spending for agriculture and aviation.

"If the Senate doesn't understand that elections have consequences and that House Republicans are more conservative than Leader Schumer, then listen, we're going to have a complicated go at it," said Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.), referring to Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.).

The politics of an impeachment inquiry

Perhaps no piece of the funding puzzle is more complicated than the politics of potentially opening an impeachment inquiry into Biden — and whether the issue will be used to entice far-right lawmakers to avoid a shutdown.

Some lawmakers fear that the parameters of a short-term funding bill could irritate far-right colleagues, whose votes would be needed to pass a procedural hurdle without Democratic support. When Republicans relied on Democrats to help pass the debt ceiling deal struck between McCarthy and the Biden administration earlier this year, Freedom Caucus members blocked the House from considering any legislation for a week.

To appease those lawmakers, Republican leaders are weighing whether to use a potential impeachment inquiry vote as a bargaining chip in the funding negotiations. But even if the inquiry is included in the talks, it's not certain that Republicans have the necessary 218 votes to pass it. Some lawmakers are staunchly against it, and McCarthy has said that an impeachment inquiry would occur through a vote on the House floor, as opposed to his unilateral decision-making.

"I think it's abusing the process," Rep. David Joyce (R-Ohio) said, lamenting how political impeachments have become. "We've been good about letting [the] Judiciary and Oversight [committees] run their course, and I've not seen a compilation of facts or evidence that had been put together that would convince me or anybody else at the moment that the next step is an impeachment inquiry."

House Republicans have been investigating whether Biden benefited from his son Hunter's business dealings, but they have yet to discover evidence directly connecting the two. While they have uncovered allegations that the Justice Department stymied the investigation into Hunter Biden's financial misdeeds, along with testimony about his penchant for touting the family brand to reel in business deals, investigators on the House Oversight and Judiciary committees have not unearthed any evidence of wrongdoing by the president.



MATT MCCLAIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Rep. Bob Good (R-Va.) and fellow members of the House Freedom Caucus conduct a news conference outside the Capitol on July 25.

Rep. Ken Buck (R-Colo.), a member of the Freedom Caucus, criticized his colleagues who are pushing to open an inquiry.

"The time for impeachment is the time when there's evidence . . . linking President Biden to a high crime or misdemeanor," Buck said in an NBC News interview. "That doesn't exist right now, and it isn't really something that we can say, 'Well, in February we're going to do this.' "

Several conservative lawmakers who reliably toe the party line have privately echoed similar concerns: that the pursuit of an impeachment inquiry is a distraction and could be perilous if investigators do not find a direct link between the president and his son that reaches the impeachment threshold of "high crimes and misdemeanors."

"If you're truly going to impeach somebody, impeach him because he actually did something wrong. Don't do it to win votes; do it because it's the right thing to do," one conservative House Republican said, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss a growing perspective within the conference.

A Trump campaign official said that former president Donald Trump and McCarthy speak often but that Trump hasn't explicitly asked the speaker to launch an inquiry. The official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations, added that Trump's orbit is leaving it up to Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.), Oversight and Accountability Committee Chairman James Comer (R-Ky.) and other Trump allies on the Hill to exert pressure and persuade their colleagues to open an inquiry.

The White House has pushed back vehemently against the effort.

"Speaker McCarthy shouldn't cave to the extreme, far-right members who are threatening to shut down the government unless they get a baseless, evidence-free impeachment of President Biden," Ian Sams, spokesperson for the White House Counsel's Office, said in a statement. "The consequences for the American people are too serious."

But several Republican lawmakers and aides said McCarthy won't be able to escape his conference's demands because a broad swath views an inquiry as a step that would give members more investigative tools if the Biden administration does not comply with current probes.

Further complicating party leaders' calculation is that Freedom Caucus members do not see a vote on impeachment as guaranteeing their votes on a short-term funding resolution, multiple members and aides said.

"You're not going to trade one for the other with me, and I think a lot of members feel that way," said Rep. Scott Perry (R-Pa.), the chair of the Freedom Caucus.

If an impeachment inquiry is eventually approved, according to multiple people familiar with leadership's thinking, McCarthy is expected to argue that if lawmakers want investigations to continue, including those looking into Hunter Biden and Biden administration officials, they cannot shut down the government because that would halt all of those queries.

One senior House GOP aide close to McCarthy rebuffed Perry's comments as wishful thinking, adding that an impeachment inquiry could very well be leverage for the speaker.

"McCarthy is being smart in holding it as a chip," this aide said.

Republican vs. Republican

House Republicans' thin majority has been routinely tested over the past eight months, but they have managed to overcome significant points of tension to pass partisan pieces of their agenda.

While they have defied the odds, including skepticism within their own ranks, lawmakers have privately warned since early this year that McCarthy's speakership would be tested the most by the fall government funding fight. That's because a number of promises he made to win the speaker's gavel hinged on curtailing spending.

"We're asking for a very modest change in the status quo," Perry said. "And, oh, by the way, it's one that the speaker agreed to in January."

How the House majority will manage to fund the government is anyone's guess, GOP lawmakers and aides say. Before the August break, leadership recessed a day early after tensions prevented a deal on a bill funding agriculture policies.

While time away from Washington often cools heads, lawmakers largely predicted that funding the government would test conservatives' fundamental differences on governance. If the House and the Senate pass different short-term spending bills, House Republicans acknowledge that a compromise will be necessary. While the Senate has not drafted such a bill, Schumer and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) agree with Biden's request for more than $24 billion for Ukraine and $16 billion for disaster relief.

House Republicans, on the other hand, largely believe that supplemental Ukraine funding must be passed as a separate bill, though leaders think they can get enough members on board with including some disaster aid in a short-term funding bill.

At this point, Republican leaders have no plans to rebuff their most conservative colleagues and turn to Democrats to help fund the government. Relying on Democrats would be the surest way for McCarthy's speakership to be challenged, said people familiar with the Freedom Caucus's thinking.

Still, if a bicameral deal is struck, House conservatives are concerned that their hard-right colleagues may oppose it, forcing McCarthy to put a bill on the floor that could pass with more Democratic votes than Republicans — the issue that caused the Freedom Caucus blockade of the House floor this year. And it could imperil McCarthy's gavel.

People familiar with the Freedom Caucus's thinking said the group wants to see McCarthy side with them throughout the negotiations and aggressively fight for their demands against the Senate. Lawmakers know they will not get everything they want, but they want McCarthy to prove he can notch "a win" for them.

And if he doesn't?

"I think that everything is on the table to hold the speaker accountable to do what he committed to do back in January," Rep. Bob Good (R-Va.) said on Fox Business.

While it takes only one Republican to trigger a vote to vacate the speaker's seat, many House Republicans credit McCarthy as the only leader who can manage the unruly conference — and there is no obvious consensus replacement.

A large portion of the GOP conference is worried that they would be blamed for a shutdown, harming their majority. But others say blame is inevitable as Freedom Caucus lawmakers publicly stress that the country should not fear a shutdown — especially if it gets them closer to curtailing spending.

Further irritating many Republicans is the Freedom Caucus's tendency to make last-minute demands rather than actively participate in the appropriations process to extract more concessions, a premise far-right lawmakers reject.

"I hope that more and more folks will start to understand when we've [shut down the government] in the past, we put American security at risk," Joyce said. "People say they're conservative and they want to cut spending. Well, government shutdowns cost taxpayers billions of dollars."

But to Perry and others, it's worth fighting for curtailed spending and lower debt, even at the risk of jeopardizing the House majority.

"I'm not going to base my decisions on whether we win or lose the majority because . . . we're going to be blamed no matter what happens," Perry said. "If your skin is that weak and that thin that you can't stand that, you probably shouldn't have run."

Johnson, the South Dakota Republican, said he had no idea whom Perry's remarks were directed to because a majority of the conference is "focused on doing the right thing."

"We may have tactical disagreements about how best to secure conservative victories," he said. "I think it's unfortunate anytime anybody would view tactical disagreements as a lack of courage."

Senators renew their push for unredacted 9/11 documents on Saudi Arabia

BY AMY B WANG

On the 22nd anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, members of the Senate Homeland Security Committee are continuing to press U.S. government officials for unredacted documents related to Saudi Arabia's involvement in the 2001 attacks, demanding those materials be turned over to the Senate this week.

Neither the Justice Department nor the Federal Bureau of Investigation has provided "complete, unredacted records of Saudi Arabia's role" in the attacks, despite a July 18 request for those documents from the Senate's permanent subcommittee on investigations, according to a Sunday letter from the subcommittee to U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland and FBI Director Christopher A. Wray.

"Tomorrow marks the 22nd anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, which took nearly 3,000 lives and reshaped the world as we then knew it," wrote Sens. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) and Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), the chairman and top Republican of the permanent subcommittee on investigations. "No one was more affected by these attacks than the families of those whose lives were lost on that day, and who have struggled to obtain accountability ever since."

Blumenthal and Johnson noted that, after their July 18 request, there was a phone meeting on Aug. 8 between their staff members and officials from the Justice Department and FBI. In that meeting, Senate staffers said government officials should prioritize releasing an unredacted copy of an 11-page document summarizing "Operation Encore," which detailed ties between the 9/11 hijackers and Saudi nationals. What the U.S. government has released so far about "Operation Encore" has been heavily redacted.

"Over one month since that call and nearly two months since our initial letter request, we have not received a single document or obtained an explanation for any of the hundreds of redactions that remain, despite the government's recent declassification review," Blumenthal and Johnson wrote Sunday. "Your failure to respond to our letter only adds to our concerns about the U.S. government's long-standing refusal to provide full transparency to the American public, and particularly for the families of 9/11 victims, about Saudi Arabia's role in the 9/11 attacks."

Blumenthal and Johnson set Thursday as the deadline for the government to provide those documents, as well as a briefing to explain why anything still needed to be redacted.

"Should DOJ and the FBI fail to provide the briefing and continue to fail to provide the requested unredacted documents by this deadline, the Subcommittee will be forced to consider the use of the other tools at its disposal to ensure compliance," the senators wrote.

Possible next steps would include asking for interviews, briefings or depositions with increasingly senior levels of officials at the Justice Department and FBI, according to a person with knowledge of the process who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the situation. The subcommittee also has the ability to issue subpoenas, which would be considered a last resort.

Representatives for the Justice Department did not respond to a request for comment Monday. A representative for the FBI simply confirmed that the agency had received the senators' letter.

The most recent letters are part of a lengthy battle by 9/11 families and lawmakers to have the government declassify and release documents related to the terrorist attacks. In August 2021, families of hundreds of victims warned that President Biden would not be welcome at events to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the attack unless he declassified government evidence beforehand that could link Saudi Arabia to the attack — as Biden had promised he would do while campaigning for president.

A few weeks later, Biden signed an executive order that would require the review, declassification and release of classified government documents related to the 9/11 attacks. The order also required the U.S. attorney general to release the declassified documents publicly over the next six months.

The move initially drew praise from lawmakers and cautious optimism from several 9/11 families. That optimism was tempered, however, after some of the documents released under Biden's executive order remained heavily redacted. Their growing frustration was evident in the senators' July 18 request for unredacted materials.

"The number of redactions that DOJ, FBI, and other agencies have made in these documents have prevented 9/11 families and the American people from receiving adequate transparency and important access to the information the federal government has about the 9/11 terrorist attacks," Blumenthal and Johnson wrote then. "While classification of certain information is important, there is a strong public interest in disclosure of all information relating to the worst terrorist attacks that have taken place on American soil."

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Biden bucks tradition, bets big on early swing-state ads

BY MICHAEL SCHERER



JIM LO SCALZO/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

President Biden addresses AFL-CIO union members on Labor Day in Philadelphia. Pennsylvania is one of the key swing states where the president's reelection campaign has purchased ads.

Walking with purpose, pulling up his shirt sleeves, glad-handing voters, commanding the podium — the images of Joe Biden flashing across swing-state television and computer screens since late August present a vibrant and pointed departure from the way most Americans now see the president.

About 3 in 4 U.S. adults recently told CNN pollsters that Biden failed to inspire confidence and raised "serious concerns" about his physical and mental competence. But this is a different leader shown in the new ads: Here he is before Congress saying no one should bet against America. There he is at the rope line giving a Black teenager a "go-get-'em-tiger" tap on the chest. Wages are rising. Manufacturing is back.

The contrast helps explain why the Biden campaign has decided to buck precedent by launching a major advertising buy sooner than Barack Obama or Donald Trump, the last two presidents to run for reelection.

It's a major investment for a still-growing campaign. Through the end of June, Biden's campaign organization had raised less than $23 million, all in checks no larger than $3,300. The same account is now shouldering the costs of the first weeks of a $25 million, 16-week television and digital campaign, overwhelmingly aimed at the swing-state voters that will decide the election. A person involved — who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly on internal discussions — said it remains uncertain whether the campaign will foot the entire bill through December, or whether the deeper pockets of the Democratic National Committee and state parties, which raised nearly $50 million more through the end of June, begin to spend as well.

The full ad campaign has separate spots to target Hispanics — with a Puerto Rican accent in Pennsylvania and a Mexican one in Arizona — with a separate tag line, "Somos Nosotros," or "It's Us." African American spots praise Biden's work to cut "Black child poverty" and grow "Black businesses." An abortion rights message is covered with a female narrator, while a young mom cement mason in the Wisconsin testimonial says Biden is "helping real people." Unlike Obama, who relied heavily on direct-to-camera speaking for his positive spots, these narrated ads typically unfold as montages of the American people and Biden in action.

Veterans of past Democratic presidential campaigns such as former Obama campaign manager Jim Messina and Jim Margolis, an ad man for Obama and Hillary Clinton, praised the unusual strategy as smart politics. The first major ad buy for Trump's reelection bid didn't come until October 2020 and Obama waited until March 2012 to start sustained spending, after a short burst in January to push back on Republican ads.

But the early spending is also an implicit admission of the challenge of reaching voters in an evolving media landscape, which has been a focus for the Biden team, who spent the early years of Biden's presidency researching the rise of social networks like TikTok and crafting new strategies to respond. Biden's particular weaknesses include his struggles to attract attention through the news media.

> *"Right now the campaign has the opportunity to begin to tell their story, mostly without opposition advertising getting in their way."*
>
> **Jim Margolis,** an advertising professional who has previously worked for Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton

"I think the distance between what the president has accomplished and what the public perceives in terms of performance is disconcerting," Margolis said in an email. "Right now the campaign has the opportunity to begin to tell their story, mostly without opposition advertising getting in their way."

John Del Cecato, a Democratic ad-maker who worked for Obama and the 2020 presidential campaign of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, calls the strategy a "gamble worth making" to raise Biden's approval rating from the low 40s, which is on par with where both Obama and Trump were at this point in their reelection cycles, according to Gallup.

"He has got to kick it up a notch," he said.

This same discomfort has Trump's team crowing, even as they focus on juggling four separate criminal indictments and a ragtag debate stage of Republican rivals.

"If you are the incumbent president and you are spending $25 million more than a year ahead, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out you have a problem and need to fix it," Trump adviser Chris LaCivita said.

Even in an off year, Biden aides say $25 million buys the Biden campaign about 3,500 gross ratings points in northern states like Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, and 2,000 or more points in Arizona, North Carolina, Nevada and Georgia, with a similar volume of digital spending.

As a rough approximation, 100 ratings points allows all viewers to see a spot once, so 3,500 is a frequency of 35 ad views per viewer. Over 16 weeks, this works out to about 20 percent of the ad volume that a presidential campaign typically runs in the closing months, according to ad buyers.

The buy includes some national cable advertising on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" — a favorite of Biden's during his morning workout — as well as daytime Fox News and prime time CNN. The Biden team has concluded that the daytime audience on the generally anti-Biden Fox News includes a surprising number of the campaign's target voters.

Major news events are also a focus of the buy. He purchased a 60-second ad in swing states on Sunday's broadcast of CBS's "60 Minutes," a spot focused on his efforts to support Ukraine against the Russian invasion that will air while Biden is overseas on a foreign trip. He also bought time in key markets during the first game of the NFL season last Thursday, focused on Biden's efforts to lower inflation.

But the bulk of the money is going to traditional swing-state broadcasts, digital platforms like YouTube and even streaming television offerings like Hulu and Freebie, the campaign said. Some of the Spanish-language advertising is going to WAPA, the Puerto Rican television network that is watched in states like Pennsylvania.

The advertising campaign is being led by three returning veterans of the 2020 Biden campaign: Patrick Bonsignore, the 2020 director of paid media; Adrian Saenz, who put together this cycle's Latino-focused ads; and Terrence Green, who is overseeing African American outreach. Mike Donilon, a longtime ad man for Biden, still works as a senior White House adviser and has occasionally weighed in on the effort in his personal capacity, like other top Biden political advisers still working in government, according to people familiar with the effort.

"In a fragmented media environment, it's more important than ever for our campaign to be investing early and aggressively across platforms to deliver our message where voters are," Biden campaign manager Julie Chavez Rodriguez said in a statement. "While Republicans duke it out and burn cash fighting each other, our campaign is reaching our general election audience early and consistently — which is critical for winning in November 2024."

The decision to spend such a large slice of the early off-year fundraising is driven in part by the Biden reelection effort's ability to offload many of the early costs on accounts with higher donation limits controlled by the Democratic National Committee and affiliated state parties. Biden campaign staff only started working out of offices in Wilmington, Del., in recent weeks, after working the first months from borrowed desks at the national party headquarters.

The strategy also indicates the campaign's confidence in raising significant money next year, as they have essentially abandoned the traditional approach of early stockpiling of campaign funds to be used in the final weeks before Election Day, when candidates are given lower rates on television than outside groups. Democrats widely believe that Biden's Republican opponent, who most now expect to be Trump, will provide more than ample incentive to open a 2024 spigot of small-dollar donations.

"They will have all the money they need to do this. We have this thing called the internet," said Messina, the 2012 Obama campaign manager. "The internet provides."

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FDA approves reformulated shot; CDC guidance coming

VACCINE FROM A1

health authorities should try to sell the vaccine to a covid-fatigued public "by calling attention to the groups for whom the vaccines provide the strongest potential benefit — or by saying this [shot] provides some benefit to everyone, but a bigger one to some people," said Jason L. Schwartz, an associate professor at the Yale School of Public Health.

While many people are referring to the updated shots as boosters, they actually represent a new vaccine formula, health officials said.

"The public can be assured that these updated vaccines have met the agency's rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality," Peter Marks, director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, said in a statement. "We very much encourage those who are eligible to consider getting vaccinated."

This is the first time the federal government is not buying all the coronavirus shots, meaning doctors, hospitals and pharmacies must order them directly. The shots will still be free for most Americans with private health insurance or coverage through Medicare or Medicaid, said Jennifer Kates, senior vice president and director of global health and HIV policy at KFF, a health policy nonprofit. The Biden administration also is taking steps to provide the shots without cost to people who don't have insurance.

The updated vaccines are part of a revamped arsenal of protections designed to counter an expected increase in covid, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus — known as RSV — as the weather turns cooler. Flu shots and RSV immunizations for infants and adults 60 and older are already available.

Experts interviewed by The Washington Post said they would get the coronavirus shot as soon as possible; one said he is telling his elderly parents to get their coronavirus, flu and RSV vaccinations by Halloween. Some doctors say healthy young people who opt for the vaccine might want to wait until a bit closer to the winter holidays, when cases are expected to proliferate. It takes about two weeks for the shot to reach full effect. Protection against infection fades within several months but offers a longer-lasting shield against serious illness, studies show.

The new coronavirus shots are arriving as the virus is popping up again, stirring concern. Nearly everyone knows someone who has covid. Schools in Kentucky and Texas canceled classes because of widespread absences, and debates about mask-wearing resumed.



MELINA MARA/THE WASHINGTON POST

Doses of the coronavirus vaccine are seen in California in 2021. The reformulated vaccine approved this week is a monovalent, designed to target an omicron variant called XBB.1.5. Previous boosters were bivalent, aimed to counter the original strain and two variants.

But experts emphasize that covid cases, while increasing since July, remain sharply lower than in past peaks. While new covid-related hospital admissions rose to more than 17,000 for the week ending Aug. 26, the total was nearly 37,000 for the same period a year ago, the CDC says. And the 658 weekly deaths, while higher than earlier in the summer, were far below the nearly 3,000 of a year ago.

"We are seeing more people with covid, especially mild covid, but I would not call it a surge," said Shira I. Doron, chief of infection control at Tufts Health and hospital epidemiologist at Tufts Medical Center in Boston.

Doron said six patients were in her hospital with covid last week, about double the average number from earlier in the summer. "That's a far cry from the over 90 patients we were seeing during peaks," she added.

Even with the coronavirus's ability to cause serious illness, many Americans now see it as little more than a nuisance and express scant appetite for isolating and donning masks. Only 20 percent of eligible people received the previous booster, and many experts don't expect the proportion to go much higher for the new version, no matter what the government recommends.

"People are going to walk, not run, for this one, unfortunately," said Peter Hotez, co-director of the Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development and dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine.

Hotez recommends that people of all ages get the shot. "All the covid numbers are climbing, and it is a big unknown: Is this going to turn into a significant wave as we progress into the fall or not?" he said.

That's similar to the FDA position, which argues the coronavirus vaccine should be treated like the flu shot, with an updated product recommended yearly for everyone 6 months and older. A study published in February showed that covid remains deadlier in severe cases than the flu.

"Why should covid be different from flu? Everyone is recommended to get the flu shot," said Katelyn Jetelina, an epidemiologist who consults for the CDC and publishes a public health newsletter, Your Local Epidemiologist, that monitors covid and other diseases. "Covid is more deadly, more contagious than flu." Some experts think older people might need a booster of the retooled vaccine sometime during the year to protect against covid.

Other experts say the injection should be targeted to high-risk groups, including older people, immunocompromised individuals and patients with chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease. Other people probably have built up enough immunity to ward off severe illness, they say.

Tufts Medical Center's Doron noted, for example, that males ages 16 to 30 who have had several shots or experienced covid possess enough immunity to avoid severe illness even if reinfected. But they should consider that if they get the vaccine, they face a small risk of contracting a rare but serious heart inflammation called myocarditis, she said.

Other experts note, however, that covid itself can cause myocarditis that is more serious and harder to treat than the inflammation potentially triggered by the vaccine.

> *"People are going to walk, not run, for this one, unfortunately."*
>
> **Peter Hotez,**
> co-director of the Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development and dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine

The newly formulated vaccine is a monovalent, with a single component designed to target an omicron variant called XBB.1.5. Previous boosters, which were bivalents, aimed to counter the original coronavirus strain and the BA.4 and BA.5 variants — all long gone.

The XBB.1.5 variant accounts for a small proportion of the cases in the United States, but it is closely related to the other XBB variants making up most cases now. That includes EG.5, the most prevalent variant at the moment and responsible for more than 21 percent of cases, according to the CDC. Tests show the new shot will protect against EG.5 and similar variants, health officials said.

In addition, new data from Pfizer and Moderna and independent scientists suggests the shot will protect against the closely watched BA.2.86, a highly mutated variant that some scientists initially worried could evade protections from vaccines or earlier infections. New studies indicate the variant is not as dangerous as feared.

BA.2.86 "appears to be a nothingburger," said John P. Moore, professor of microbiology and immunology at Weill Cornell Medicine. "It has been showing a very slow rate of increase, not an explosive event. If it were going to have a huge impact, we would know it by now."

In its weekly update on respiratory viruses, the CDC said Friday that "early research data from multiple labs are reassuring and show that existing antibodies work against the new BA.2.86 variant." It noted that current increases in covid cases and hospitalizations in the United States "are not being driven by BA.2.86 and instead are being caused by other predominantly circulating viruses." This data is encouraging, the CDC said, because the updated vaccine is tailored to the circulating variants.

"We expect this season's vaccine to be available in the coming weeks, pending recommendation from public health authorities, so people can ask their doctor about receiving their covid-19 vaccine during the same appointment as their annual flu shot, saving time now and helping to prevent severe disease later when respiratory viruses are at their peak," said Albert Bourla, chairman and CEO of Pfizer.

Stéphane Bancel, CEO of Moderna, said that with the continued evolution of the virus "updated vaccines will be critical to protecting the population this season."

The pharmaceutical firm Novavax has also applied for FDA clearance for an updated vaccine, but that review is ongoing. That shot might be available in coming weeks. Unlike the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna mRNA vaccines, Novavax's is a more traditional protein-based shot.

The FDA said everyone 5 and older is eligible to receive a single dose of the updated coronavirus vaccine regardless of whether they have gotten a vaccine before. Children 6 months through 4 years who have been vaccinated are eligible to receive one or two doses of an updated shot, but the timing and number of doses depends on the previous vaccine received. Children 6 months through 4 years who have not been vaccinated against covid are eligible to receive three doses of the updated vaccines.

The FDA approved the updated mRNA vaccines for individuals 12 and older, and authorized them for emergency use for those 6 months through 11 years. The bivalent Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines are no longer authorized for use in the United States, the agency said.

Fenit Nirappil contributed to this report.

New covid vaccine shots are on the way. Who should get them and when?

BY LAURIE MCGINLEY

Updated coronavirus vaccines are on the way — the latest weapon for fending off a wily foe that has relentlessly evolved and is causing an uptick in covid-19 cases and hospitalizations.

The shots, designed to provide improved protection against omicron subvariants now circulating, are manufactured by Moderna and by Pfizer and its German partner, BioNTech. They were cleared Monday by the Food and Drug Administration and are expected to be reviewed Tuesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its advisers.

That means the injections will be available to consumers shortly. Here is what you need to know:

When will the new coronavirus vaccines be available?

The shots are expected to be available later this week, after the CDC decides who should get them. The CDC's outside experts — the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — are scheduled to meet Tuesday to make a recommendation on the issue. After that, CDC Director Mandy Cohen will issue her decision, clearing the way for administration of the shots.

Who can get the new coronavirus shots?

That's not settled yet. The FDA cleared the vaccine for everyone 6 months and older, but the CDC has the last word on who should get the shots. That agency is leaning toward a broad recommendation, akin to the FDA's. If the CDC decides the shots should be widely administered, that would mirror the policy on annual influenza shots.



FREDERIC J. BROWN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The new coronavirus shots are designed to provide improved protection against omicron subvariants in circulation. The shot will be available at doctors offices, clinics and commercial venues like CVS.

But some experts say the coronavirus shot should be targeted to high-risk groups, including older people, immunocompromised individuals and patients with chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease. They say healthy younger people are at low risk for severe illness, in part because they have built up immunity.

No matter what the government recommends, many Americans are likely to skip the shot, experts say. Only 20 percent of people who were eligible got the last booster.

When should I get the new coronavirus shot?

People should talk to their doctors about timing, especially because there are two other protective steps to consider as the weather gets colder — flu shots and RSV immunizations for infants and adults 60 and older. Some experts say people who are eligible for all three should get them by the end of October.

Doctors say that people who did not get the previous coronavirus booster should get the new shot. The same goes for older people who might be especially vulnerable to a bad case of covid. Some doctors say healthy younger people, if they decide to get the shot, might want to wait a bit so that protection is high around the winter holidays, when cases have risen in the last three years.

Coronavirus vaccines tend to increase protective antibodies against mild infections for a relatively short period. But they also strengthen the body's longer-term defenses against serious illness.

Where can I get the new coronavirus vaccine?

The new shot will be available at doctors offices, clinics and commercial venues that typically offer vaccines, including CVS and Walgreens.

Does the coronavirus shot protect against variants BA.2.86 and EG.5?

The vaccine was designed to protect against the omicron subvariant XBB.1.5, which now accounts for a small proportion of the cases in the United States. But the injection also counters other XBB variants making up most cases now. That includes EG.5, the most prevalent variant at the moment and responsible for more than 21 percent of U.S. cases, according to the CDC.

In addition, new data from Pfizer, Moderna and independent scientists suggests the shot will protect against the closely watched BA.2.86, a highly mutated variant that some scientists initially worried could evade protections from vaccines or earlier infections. New studies indicate the variant is not as dangerous as feared.

In its weekly update on respiratory viruses, the CDC said Friday that "early research data from multiple labs are reassuring and show that existing antibodies work against the new BA.2.86 variant."

How much will the coronavirus shot cost?

The injections will be free to most Americans with private health insurance or coverage through Medicare or Medicaid, said Jennifer Kates, senior vice president and director of global health and HIV policy at KFF, a health policy nonprofit.

The Biden administration also is taking steps to provide the shots free to people without insurance, although some advocates worry that uninsured people won't know when and how to get the vaccine.

How soon after having covid can I get the new vaccine?

The CDC says people may wait three months, but some experts advise patients to wait closer to six months.

What about children and the coronavirus vaccine — do they get the same shots as adults?

Yes, but with some tweaks. Everyone 5 years old and up is eligible to receive a single dose of the updated coronavirus vaccine regardless of whether they have gotten a vaccine before. Children 6 months through 4 years old who have been vaccinated are eligible to receive one or two doses of an updated shot, but the timing and number of doses depends on the previous vaccine received. Children 6 months through 4 years old who have not been vaccinated against the coronavirus are eligible to receive three doses of the updated vaccines.

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THE WORLD



PHOTOS BY ANDREA DICENZO FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Indoor skiing, ice baths: Staying cool in a sweltering Dubai summer

BY ANDREA DICENZO, RUBY MELLEN AND JÚLIA LEDUR
IN DUBAI

In one of the world's richest and hottest cities, combating the desert heat and humidity is not just a way of life, it's a chance to get creative.

From oceanside ice baths to indoor ski resorts, people living in Dubai are doing their best to keep cool, even while nature works against them. Unlike other major cities, ill-equipped to fight rising temperatures caused by climate change, people in this metropolis in the United Arab Emirates are prepared, though that often depends on how much money you have. Air conditioning is ubiquitous — even outdoors — public cooling centers abound and gatherings shift to early morning or late evening.

For the more than 3 million people in the city, summers are only getting hotter.

On one white-sand beach, the waves of the Persian Gulf lapped at the shore as grinning clients braced themselves before plunging into tubs of ice water. The temperature that day peaked at 110 degrees, according to AccuWeather. The humidity makes it feel hotter.

"The hard part is the first 20 seconds," said Andrea Casole, a life and career coach who moved from Italy to Dubai less than a year ago. He said summer in his new home has proved more comfortable than his experience in Milan.

"We have AC in Milan but it's not this high and not all the places have it," Casole said.

The two-hour-long ice-bath sessions, which include guided breathing, meditation, fruit and coffee, cost about $80. For Benoit Demeulemeester, who runs Endorphins Method, the company that offers the baths, Dubai summer beats many sought-after European destinations.

"Everything here is air-conditioned," he said. "It's worse to go to the south of France, where my mother lives. It's hot, and nowhere has AC."

Away from the seaside, the air in Dubai is muggier, and shade is a valuable commodity.

Cooling off in the pool is only an option if the pool is cool enough. Companies come to houses and drop in large blocks of ice.

It's not easy to escape the heat: Even in the middle of the night, Dubai's temperatures rarely dip below 90 degrees during the summer.

A great divide is always present in this wealthy city. Bikers for Deliveroo, a British app similar to Postmates that offers delivery services, spend hours outside fulfilling orders.

In a new initiative rolled out this year, the company set up Roo Buses, air-conditioned rest stops throughout the city where riders can take a break from the heat. The vehicles are comfortably cool and equipped with water and snacks.

Rights groups say Gulf state governments could be doing more to protect workers — many of whom are migrants — from the heat. A Human Rights Watch report from May urged countries to use Wet Bulb Globe Temperature — a heat index that accounts for temperature, humidity, wind speed and sun exposure — to set limits on time spent outdoors.

The UAE restricts people from working outside in the sun between 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. in the summer months, but Deliveroo workers are exempt, because they are considered essential and their work brings them indoors from time to time. Still, the company is trying to address workers' well-being in the extreme heat. They also provide safety training for drivers on how to stay cool in the summer.

"During the summer months, the most important way to cope with the heat is hydration," said Godwin Imoroa, a 28-year-old from Nigeria who has spent two years working for Deliveroo. "I think summer is difficult to live anywhere in the world. But in Dubai, they are equipped and adapted to the heat."

For those who have the luxury of staying inside, options range from cooling down to getting cold. Chillout Lounge, which is the first ice lounge in the Middle East, according to its website, offers hot soups and cappuccinos in a room decorated with ice sculptures.

At Ski Dubai, an indoor ski arena where a two-hour pass costs approximately $68, people hit the slopes all year round.

"It doesn't matter if it's summer or winter, we just enjoy the snow," said Eric Chow, a former Singapore resident who has lived in Dubai for four years.

The resort also offers day camps for children, who bundled in winter gear in August as the temperature outside soared to 104 degrees.

Nizam Rahamattulla, who is from southern India and has lived in Dubai for almost 20 years, came to ski with his wife and 5-year-old daughter. The family found themselves seeking refuge not from the heat, but from the cold.

"This cold is too much for us to tolerate," he said. "Every hour or two hours, we have to go outside to warm up again, then we come back in."

The complex also has a "snow cinema." Moviegoers can sip hot chocolate under thick blankets and watch a film. Ski Dubai maintains temperatures as low as 25 degrees, according to its website.

While hot and humid summers have long been the norm in Dubai, other parts of the world are now beginning to deal with similar climates. July was the warmest month on record, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The previous record was set in July 2021. Some tourists hoping to escape the heat and humidity in places where the infrastructure hasn't caught up with the rising temperatures view the Gulf city as an ideal summer destination.

"I've been cold in the shopping centers, even before coming to [Ski Dubai]," said Lillian Trent, a tourist from Perth, Australia. "The AC is so strong you get goose bumps. I don't get that in Rome."

Mellen reported from Washington.







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Benoit Demeulemeester of Endorphins Method and his son demonstrate how to fall into ice baths headfirst on a beach in Dubai. A family gets ready to scale the climbing wall at Ski Dubai, an indoor ski park. A snowman displayed at Ski Dubai. Children wait to use the chairlift at Ski Dubai. During the hot, humid summer months in the United Arab Emirates, temperatures consistently exceed 110 degrees, pushing most recreation inside.

DIGEST

TURKEY

U.S. researcher rescued from cave

Rescuers pulled an American researcher out of a Turkish cave early Tuesday, more than a week after he became seriously ill 1,000 meters below its entrance, the Speleological Federation of Turkey said.

Teams from across Europe had rushed to Morca cave in southern Turkey's Taurus Mountains to aid Mark Dickey, a 40-year-old experienced caver who became seriously ill on Sept. 2 with stomach bleeding. He was on an expedition to map the cave, which is the country's third deepest.

Dickey was too frail to climb out himself, so rescuers carried him with the help of a stretcher, making frequent stops at temporary camps set up along the way before he finally reached the surface early Tuesday.

Dickey, who is from Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., is a well-known cave researcher and a cave rescuer himself who had participated in many international expeditions.

— Associated Press

ISRAEL

Protests kick off ahead of high court hearing

Thousands of Israeli protesters flooded the streets outside Israel's Supreme Court in Jerusalem on Monday, a day before it hears a pivotal case against the curbing of the high court's powers by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's far-right government.

Beating drums, waving blue-and-white Israeli flags and brandishing signs saying "Freedom" and "Hands off our Supreme Court!," thousands of protesters from cities nationwide swarmed the main intersection outside the high court in a mass rally against the government's deeply contentious judicial overhaul that has triggered one of the biggest domestic crises in Israeli history.

On Tuesday, all 15 of Israel's Supreme Court justices will appear on the bench for the first time ever to hear appeals by rights groups and individuals against the first major part of the overhaul, which the government pushed through parliament in July. The law cancels the court's ability to block government actions and appointments using the legal concept that they are "unreasonable."

— Associated Press

Fukushima operator says first round of wastewater release is complete: The operator of the wrecked Fukushima nuclear power plant said Monday that it has safely completed the first release of 7,800 tons of treated radioactive water from the plant into the sea, and will inspect and clean the facility before starting the second round in a few weeks.

The Fukushima Daiichi plant began discharging the treated and diluted wastewater into the Pacific Ocean on Aug. 24. The water — about 1.34 million tons total — has accumulated since the plant was damaged by a massive earthquake and tsunami in 2011, and the start of its release is a milestone in the plant's decommissioning. The discharge, which is expected to continue for decades until the decommissioning is finished, has been strongly opposed by fishing groups and by neighboring countries.

— From news services

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"The sights were horrific. No electricity, no water, no food. People with broken limbs and backs. People with open wounds and respiratory problems."

Hamza Zilaf, a volunteer medic



PHOTOS BY SIMA DIAB FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Rescue workers attempting to retrieve bodies from the rubble in Talat N'Yaaqoub, Morocco, on Monday. Rescue efforts were carried out by a patchwork of emergency responders, from soldiers to locals.

In quake-decimated villages, rescuers find only bodies

MOROCCO FROM A1

weekend but was sent home Sunday. Rescue workers in other parts of Europe, including France, also remain grounded.

In the earthquake zone Monday, rescue efforts were carried out by a patchwork of emergency responders, including soldiers and government civil defense workers, volunteers from the private sector and locals, digging through rubble to recover relatives, often with their bare hands. Military helicopters flew overhead, apparently trying to reach the most remote areas.

The government announced Monday that Prime Minister Aziz Akhannouch had presided over an emergency meeting in Rabat, the capital, where he vowed to "continue relief efforts and expedite crisis management measures," while "providing support and assistance to citizens in the affected areas."

The government was also working on a plan, in line with directives from the Royal Palace, to begin reconstruction efforts and compensate people who lost their homes, a statement read.

Neither Akhannouch nor King Mohammed VI have addressed the public since the disaster hit.

In Asni, about 25 miles south of Marrakesh, a military field hospital and displacement camp were set up for people from devastated communities in the surrounding hills. The field hospital, which is equipped for surgery, did not yet have any patients early Monday as soldiers rushed to complete it, and several ambulances nearby sat idle.

Morocco's civil protection service had erected 30 tents for families, who in some cases had to double up. Inside, women and children sat on thick rugs on the ground. Tea kettles were perched on propane tanks. Young children, dusty after two days in the camp, played in the dirt. One family said they received some food and supplies from the government, but it wouldn't have been enough without assistance from private groups.

There are no toilets, one woman said, so when people need to use the bathroom, they go to one of the destroyed houses nearby.

Rahma, 14, stood outside a blue tent as her mother chatted with relatives. The family had been there since Saturday.

"We have no idea" what will happen next, Rahma said.

In the small mountain village of Elbour, perched above the Ouirgane reservoir, a team of rescue workers from the Moroccan military had been working day and night since the early hours of Saturday to pull bodies from the rubble. One of them, Imad Elbachir, said four teams of rescue personnel — 44 workers total — had been deployed to the area immediately after the quake.

Early Saturday, they were able to pull out two survivors, including a 12-year-old boy named Hamza. He was taken to a hospital with minor physical injuries but in complete shock, having lost his entire family, Elbachir said.

Since then, with the help of a large excavator and men from the village, they have been carefully extricating the dead. Bodies were rushed on stretchers to be washed according to Muslim ritual and then buried in the hillside cemetery on the village's edge.

By noon Monday, military rescuers had pulled out 14 bodies, Elbachir said. Only three remained. One belonged to a 7-year-old boy named Badr, whose weeping mother, Habiba, lay in a nearby clearing, waiting to bury her only son.

Her entire family — parents, husband, two brothers and their wives — also perished in the earthquake, which reduced their home to a mound of wood, concrete and crumbled red clay.

Village women cradled Habiba's head and stroked her brow. "Thank God at least he died close to you, so you can bury him," one of the women murmured to her.

Around the corner, the rescue workers used an excavator, shovels and their bare hands to clear a path to Badr. Suddenly, a man rushed to the clearing and called for a blanket. Habiba rose, leaning on the shoulders of two of her neighbors, and lurched toward the rescue site, moaning as she went. Just before the boy was pulled out, women ushered Habiba away to spare her the sight.

Rescue workers hoisted the stretcher and took off down the main road, the small body covered in a purple blanket. As Badr was washed, Habiba lay on a dirty pink mattress outside the building, struggling for breath. Then rescue workers and village men bore the body across town.

Heads down, they lined up to say a last prayer before taking the boy to the cemetery. They gently laid the small bundle, wrapped in white linen, into the red earth before covering it with concrete blocks.

Rania Najji, 24, whose family lived near Habiba, said the villagers were all sleeping out in the open in the cold at night. No tents had arrived, but donors had brought plenty of food, she said.

"The Moroccan state brought us nothing beyond rescue aid and the civil protection services," she said. "People want access to food, milk for babies, clothes, diapers."

Later Monday evening, emergency workers, doctors and nurses could be seen arriving in the village.

Twenty miles to the south, the approach to the small town of Talat N'Yaaqoub was choked with ambulances and private cars driven by volunteers, on a narrow mountain road full of switchbacks and littered with rocky debris. Supplies — water, blankets, food — were loaded on the backs of donkeys to reach hamlets inaccessible by car.

Inside the town, nothing was spared: Mud-brick houses and concrete shops lay in heaps. Rescue workers, in teams of 20 or 30, worked until exhaustion to dig out bodies, then were replaced by other teams.

Hamza Zilaf, a volunteer medic, said he and colleagues were the first rescuers to arrive in Talat N'Yaaqoub, on Sunday night — deciding "on a whim to come and help." The group came from Khouribga, a city 150 miles away, and brought three private ambulances, he said.

The road was "extremely difficult"; a bulldozer had to clear rocks to allow the group to move. They spent the night in Talat N'Yaaqoub, providing "aid and medication to as many people as we could help," he said. They continued up the mountain Monday, providing aid to seven other villages.

"The sights were horrific," he said. "No electricity, no water, no food. People with broken limbs and backs. People with open wounds and respiratory problems."

In Talat N'Yaaqoub on Monday, civil defense responders were no longer hopeful of saving people. The work now, one rescuer said, was a "recovery mission."

Morris reported from Berlin and Fahim from Istanbul.



The funeral procession for 7-year-old Badr, whose body was retrieved from under the rubble in Elbour, Morocco. His entire family, except for his mother Habiba, below, also died in the earthquake.



Habiba is emotional after eight members of her family died and the body of her son, Badr, was retrieved. "Thank God at least he died close to you, so you can bury him," a village woman said to her.

Morocco's reluctance to accept earthquake aid baffles foreign governments

BY LOVEDAY MORRIS AND ANNABELLE TIMSIT

Governments far and wide have offered aid to Morocco following a 6.8-magnitude earthquake that has left more than 2,800 people dead and thousands injured and displaced.

But, to the bafflement of officials abroad, Morocco has been slow to accept support.

Countries including France, Germany, Italy and the United States, along with the United Nations, said they were waiting to provide any help they could after Friday's devastating earthquake in the High Atlas Mountains.

But Morocco also appeared slow to take up offers of broader humanitarian and technical assistance. Washington "reached out immediately to the Moroccan government to offer any assistance that we can provide," U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Sunday on CNN. "We await word from the Moroccan government to find out how we can help, where we can help," Blinken said.

The U.S. Agency for International Development did not immediately respond to a request on Monday on whether it had yet mobilized any teams or assistance.

The United Nations has brought in experts to Morocco but is "on standby waiting for a request for assistance," said Farhan Haq, deputy spokesperson for the U.N. secretary general. Whereas the U.N. has coordinated efforts on the ground in its past disasters, the Moroccan government is "trying itself to mobilize aid," he told CNN on Monday. He said he expected more bilateral agreements in the coming days.

In France, which ruled over Morocco as a colonial power from 1912 to 1956, the lack of uptake of support was greeted with surprise and sparked speculation that a cooling in relations between Paris and Rabat over immigration and other issues had played a role.

French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna said that some 60 other countries, including France, had offered assistance, but stressed that she believed controversy was being overblown.



SIMA DIAB FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Rescuers attempt to retrieve a body in Elbour, Morocco. The country's reluctance to accept offers of support following the 6.8-magnitude earthquake has been a surprise to some nations, including France, which once ruled Morocco as a colonial power.

Morocco had not "refused" France's help, she told French channel BFM TV. France will give $5.4 million to French and international nonprofits working on the ground in Morocco and stands ready to support Morocco further, she said.

Simon Martin, the British ambassador to Morocco, said 60 U.K. search-and-rescue experts and four search dogs had arrived in the country to support Moroccan-led operations. The Spanish urban search-and-rescue team said it was receiving and coordinating international teams.

Countries including Tunisia and Saudi Arabia have said they are sending aid, though it is not clear if any has been dispatched. Other nongovernmental organizations said they had already mobilized.

Meanwhile, a 50-person team from Germany's Technical Relief Agency assembled at Cologne Bonn Airport over the weekend was sent home from the airport on Sunday after their offer for help was not taken up.

Morocco accepted search-and-rescue assistance from four countries



As of Sunday

JÚLIA LEDUR/THE WASHINGTON POST

The rapid deployment unit was "ready within a short time to use their technical expertise to provide humanitarian aid in Morocco," the agency's president, Sabine Lackner, said in a news release. The agency deployed a 50-person team to Turkey and Syria for four months after the devastating quake there at the beginning of this year. It is now "checking whether and how the country can be helped with the delivery of relief supplies."

Addressing journalists on Monday, German Foreign Ministry spokesman Sebastian Fischer said there was no indication that the decision on aid by Morocco was "political."

"The Moroccan side thanked us for the offer of help," he said, adding that in emergencies, "you also have to ensure coordination."

But others expressed surprise that assistance was being turned down.

"It is incomprehensible why this help is not requested," tweeted Carl-Julius Cronenberg, a member of parliament for Germany's Free Democrats. "It shouldn't be about misunderstood national pride, but only about the fastest and best possible help!"

Even if relief officials wanted to accept foreign assistance, permission would require approval from the very top, and any such request could easily become mired in a bureaucratic chain of command, said Samia Errazzouki, an expert in Moroccan history and governance at Stanford University. "It's heavily centralized and controlled, so that means nothing can happen until approval comes from the person who is higher up."

Reluctance to allow a broad range of aid could stem from a reluctance to permit scrutiny or lose control of the narrative about the conditions in communities hit by the quake, amid a potential public relations nightmare. An influx of foreign aid workers could be "a source of anxiety for the Moroccan state, as perhaps it would shed light on issues that many of us have been trying to signal [are] not tenable, and lives are at stake."

"It is incomprehensible why this help is not requested. It shouldn't be about misunderstood national pride, but only about the fastest and best possible help!"

Carl-Julius Cronenberg, a member of Germany's parliament

Miriam Berger, Sarah Dadouch and Missy Ryan in Washington and Kate Brady in Berlin contributed to this report.



A dogged officer with a good tip broke up a ring of match fixers

TENNIS FROM A1

Borremans was a tall, slender man with searching blue eyes and a bald head who cycled 40 miles to and from work every day. He was the son of a cheese vendor. Borremans joined the police force at 19 and worked for years in a carjacking unit. Once, he broke up a criminal network trafficking luxury cars between the Belgian port city of Antwerp and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Borremans knew little about sports. He had never watched an entire tennis match. But even a cursory description of the case was enough for him to see how a gambling operation might be used to launder money. After the 2016 briefing, Borremans returned to his office on the second floor of a police station in Oudenaarde, a quiet medieval town an hour from Brussels. He began diagraming what was known about the bets in PowerPoint slides.

Within a few months, he had traced the accounts of four men who had placed suspicious bets in Belgium, all Armenian immigrants. Their wagers were mostly small — a few hundred euros each — ostensibly to avoid scrutiny. Almost all of the bets were on low-level professional tennis tournaments, where players earned barely enough to pay for their travel.

Borremans secured wiretaps on the gamblers' phones, and a team of Armenian interpreters listened in. It became clear that the gamblers were working for someone. They received detailed instructions about which matches to bet on. They weren't gambling just on the outcomes, but on specific scores for sets and games.

"We heard them receive orders," Borremans recalled in an interview. "Someone would tell them, go now to the betting shop and place this much money on these matches."

Borremans added more gamblers to his diagram. "Money mules," he called them. Eventually, he would uncover 1,671 accounts at gambling establishments across Europe. Many were registered by working-class Armenians: mechanics, a pizza deliveryman, a taxi driver.

After months of wiretapping, Borremans began wondering whether his search for the gambling network's boss was approaching a dead end. The work was isolating; none of his colleagues seemed to care much about the investigation. He made an appointment with the judge who was overseeing the case.

"I told her, 'If we don't get new information soon, we're going to have to close this,'" he said.

Then, in 2017, he received a promising lead.

The professional tennis tour — the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP Tour), the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and the Women's Tennis Association together — had created its own investigation unit, hiring retired officers from London's Metropolitan Police. That unit, initially called the Tennis Integrity Unit, was formed in part because of pervasive allegations of match-fixing in the sport.

One of the integrity unit's first investigators was Dee Bain. She was in her late 50s, a veteran of the London police. Unlike Borremans, she was a tennis fanatic who saw corruption in the sport creating what she called "reputational risk."

In 2017, Bain heard through a contact at Interpol that Belgian police were working on a tennis-related case. The timing was interesting. She was closing in on one of her first match-fixing targets: Karim Hossam.

Bain saw that Hossam was playing in an ITF tournament in Tunisia. Every professional tennis player, including Hossam, signs a contract agreeing to hand their phones over to tennis investigators at any time if required. Bain had uncovered Facebook messages between Hossam and another player about a match-fixing plan; it was enough evidence to act against Hossam.

Typically, investigators follow their target before and during a match. When the match is over, investigators make their approach, often steering the player to an office where the phone is seized and interrogators are waiting.

"Nobody thinks they are going to get caught, so their messages are not deleted," said Jenni Kennedy, the integrity unit's senior director of investigations.

In Hossam's case, Bain and another investigator waited at the door of his hotel room for him to return from a match.

"They were like, 'Can we please have your phone?'" Hossam recalled in an interview. "I just froze."

He immediately admitted that he had been fixing matches. He handed over his phone. He told interrogators he had been communicating with a match fixer named Gregory in Brussels but didn't know much about him. It would become a common thread in the investigation: Almost every account of Grigor Sargsyan appeared to describe a slightly different person, adding mistaken details.

"A white guy with black hair, around 26 or 27," Hossam said, according to a transcript of the interrogation. "He has a connection with Syria or Iran. He spends a lot of time in Barcelona and drives a Mercedes."

After the interrogation, Hossam texted his brother from another number.

"They caught me in my room bro," he wrote. "And I was stupid I didn't delete some things."

Investigators sent Hossam's seized phone to an expert to decrypt. When it came back, Bain could see the messages that he had exchanged with a man named Gregory, along with the match fixer's cellphone number. She called Borremans and said a Belgian match fixer had just emerged in her investigation. He seemed to be based in Brussels and had been working with Hossam.

"That could be the guy I'm looking for," Borremans said.



ANSON CHAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



SEBASTIEN VAN MALLEGHEM FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Chief Inspector Nicolas Borremans in his office in Oudenaarde, Belgium. Although he knew little about sports and had never watched an entire tennis match, he could see how a gambling operation might be used to launder money, and he immersed himself in the case.

Game, set, fix

In a two-part investigation, The Washington Post examined one of the biggest match-fixing rings in modern sports and the biggest match-fixing ring in tennis history.

As Sargsyan's legend permeated professional tennis, he had another problem to solve: how not to get caught.

He did his best to remain inconspicuous. He often slept in his parents' apartment in the gentrifying Saint-Gilles neighborhood of Brussels, where the family had moved, even though he had his own place in the city. He took shifts at the brick-storefront Polish deli where his parents worked, just underneath their apartment.

He also urged the players he recruited to keep a low profile. He gave them SIM cards registered anonymously. He gave more-detailed instructions about how players should tank their matches.

"Please ask him not to start with a double fault," he wrote to an intermediary who had fixed a match in Casablanca, Morocco.

He instructed players not to flash their newfound wealth, but they didn't always listen. One French player, after throwing a match, filmed himself tossing a pile of cash in the air at a nightclub and posted it on Instagram. Sargsyan lost his composure.

"I told him, 'You idiot. People are going to start asking questions,'" he said in an interview.

Sargsyan stayed off social media. He broke up with his girlfriend when she started inquiring about his income. Once, when he thought his phone was being tapped, he told his players that he had "chucked it in the sea." His mother began suspecting something was wrong.

"I'm worried about him," investigators would later hear her say on a wiretapped phone. "I think he might be in trouble."

Once she texted him: "I am your mother and I love you so much. Come home, my son."

"Mother, everything is ok," he tried to reassure her.

The players, too, began to sense something was up.

One French player, Yannick Thivant, ranked 590th in the world, received 40,710 euros in 21 transfers from Armenia to his account on Skrill, a digital financial platform. Thivant, saved as "THIV" on Sargsyan's phone, received at least an additional 15,000 euros in cash, according to receipts and messages obtained by Belgian investigators.

Thivant agreed to recruit more French players into the match-fixing ring. But he began to see that Sargsyan, for all his charm, could be tempestuous. Sargsyan lashed out when he thought his players were not adequately masking their thrown matches.

"How many times do I have to say it," Sargsyan wrote to him once. "It is necessary that in the eyes of all they play thoroughly."

Sargsyan's anger deepened when he heard about players leaking their plans to other fixers to make more money.



ANSON CHAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

"I have the concrete proof that they gave the full info to another person," Sargsyan, furious that one of his players was trying to double-dip, wrote to Thivant. "I warned you to tell them to shut up."

Even paying those on his roster began to get complicated.

Sargsyan had begun working with Arthur De Greef, saved as "LA GRIFFE" in his phone, who had reached a top ranking of 113th in the world. He was a member of the Belgian Davis Cup team, coached by a former Olympian. He had defeated players in the top 20 but mostly played lower-tier ITF and ATP Challenger tournaments as he tried to break into the sport's elite tier.

But when Sargsyan discussed leaving 4,500 euros in De Greef's mailbox — the payoff for a thrown match — De Greef grew concerned about getting caught.

"Sorry, you know me, I'm paranoid," he wrote in May 2018.

Sargsyan, despite his own concerns, tried to reassure him.

"You worry too much," he wrote.

Later, De Greef would tell Belgian police he never communicated with Sargsyan. When investigators showed him a picture of Sargsyan, De Greef said he had never seen him before. But in 32 messages found on Sargsyan's phone, the pair spoke with familiarity, two men whose lives revolved around the lowest rungs of the tennis tour — an immigrant from Armenia and a member of Belgium's tennis elite.

Sargsyan suggested they could exchange cash on the road.

"Abroad would be better," De Greef agreed.

Sargsyan responded with his itinerary.

"I'll be in Marseille — Barcelona — Monaco."

Borremans now had the match fixer's number from Hossam's phone, the one saved under "Gregory."

But when he ran the number, there was no name attached to it. Borremans pored through Gregory's call records and noticed that he had been speaking with a German tennis player. Borremans then saw that, according to the phone's geolocation, Gregory had left Brussels for Berlin not long after the conversation.

Borremans checked flight records from that day to see whether any of the names from his growing list of Armenian gamblers appeared on the manifests.

There was one hit: Grigor Sargsyan.

Borremans wrote the name on the PowerPoint diagram, next to the word "Maestro."

"I was walking on clouds," he said.

In mid-2017, Borremans launched an undercover surveillance team of 10 people. He dressed in blue jeans and a sweater, joining



ANSON CHAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



SEBASTIEN VAN MALLEGHEM FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Grigor Sargsyan, front left, waits in a courtroom in Oudenaarde, Belgium, on April 27 for the first hearing in his case. A lawyer representing professional tennis said of Sargsyan's ring: "Biggest in size, biggest in money, and biggest in number of matches fixed and number of players involved." Sargsyan didn't deny his role in the network, and about two months later, he would be sentenced.

the team to watch Sargsyan from a distance.

They monitored Sargsyan's movements through a telephoto lens and, in one instance, saw him accept a bag stuffed with cash that had just arrived in Brussels from Armenia. The police tracked Sargsyan's almost-daily trips to Paris, where he ducked into restaurants near the Gare de Lyon and Gare du Nord train stations to pay off his players.

His phone's search history would later offer a glimpse into his life and concerns. Sargsyan scoured the internet for references to himself and his players ("maestro tennis," "match fixing tennis hossam"); he did some broader research into his world ("tennis corruption," "armenian mafia"); he searched for ways to spend his new fortune ("escort geneve," "villa rent close port mallorca"). But, mostly, he searched for new bookmakers ("croatia betting shop," "usa betting," "mybet Australia").

Borremans began adding the names of Sargsyan's players to his diagram. The network revealed itself to be a global operation. Eventually, Borremans would count more than 180 players from more than 30 countries.

Some of the most important players were French. Borremans knew he wouldn't be able to prosecute them in a Belgian court, so he contacted French authorities. French police launched their own investigation, eventually interrogating eight professional players. One of those, Mick Lescure, saved as "MIKKI" in Sargsyan's phone, was living with his parents on the outskirts of Paris. His tennis career appeared to be over. When he was interrogated by police, he opened up.

Referring to Sargsyan only as Maestro, he described him as "a man in his thirties, of medium height, quite corpulent, with short brown hair, bearded, of Middle Eastern appearance," according to a police transcript. "He has no particularly distinguishing features."

The officers listened as Lescure spoke of the scale of his involvement.

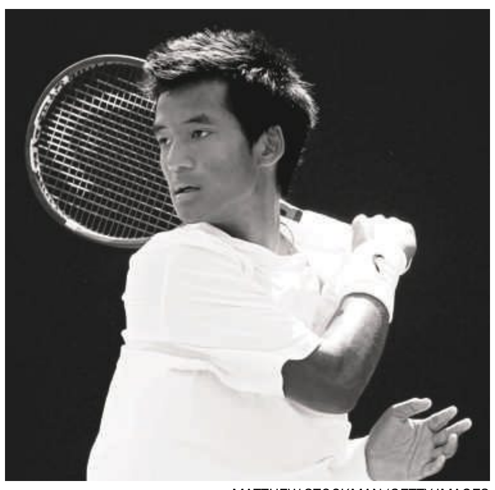
"Since 2015, I estimate that I have accepted to deliberately lose or manipulate the outcome of 20 to 30 matches for Maestro, both in singles and doubles," he said.

But another comment from Lescure was more revealing, underscoring how Sargsyan retained his players' loyalty even as his network began to implode.

"He became a friend," Lescure said.

Almost two years after he took on the case, Borremans walked into the command center at the police station in Oudenaarde. It was June 5, 2018.

For days, he had been meeting with police units across Belgium to prepare for Sargsyan's arrest and the takedown of the match-fixing network. "The intervention," he called it.



MATTHEW STOCKMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Mick Lescure of France, seen in 2010, told police all about his part in Sargsyan's ring.

By then, the same officers who initially shrugged off the case had heard about Borremans's work. "It was incredible what he had done, almost entirely by himself," said Guy Reinenbergh, head of the Belgian police's sports-crime unit. He had nicknamed Borremans "the bulldog."

Borremans oversaw the operation from Oudenaarde while armed units across the country set off to make arrests. On their list were 28 people: 21 of them, including Sargsyan, were suspected of involvement in illegal gambling and paying players to fix matches. The seven others were Belgian players, including De Greef.

The police unit got to Sargsyan's parents' apartment at 6:30 a.m. They were prepared to break down the front door, but one of the officers turned the handle. It was open. Sargsyan's father was sleeping in the living room. His mother was asleep in the third-floor bedroom.

After spotting Sargsyan through an open door, the officers sprinted up the stairs to his room. Above the bed was an astronaut figurine and medals from chess championships. His phones were on the nightstand, just out of reach. The officers noticed the devices immediately. One officer nearly collided with Sargsyan as both raced toward the nightstand. But Sargsyan came up short. The officers placed the phones in an evidence bag and put their target in handcuffs.

"We knew our timing was perfect," Borremans said. "We knew those phones had the information we wanted."

Sargsyan was taken to a prison in Bruges, about 60 miles northwest of Brussels. A little over a week later, Borremans arrived to question him. They shook hands and chatted casually for a few minutes.

"He's the kind of guy you want to get a drink with," Borremans said.

Then Borremans turned to his questions. Why had Sargsyan done this? What was his relationship to criminal figures in Armenia?

"He said nothing," Borremans said. "He just smiled. You could tell that this was a person who was not ashamed about what he had done."

"For him, it's not a crime. It's being smart. It's using information."

Sargsyan remained in jail for 10 months in 2018 and 2019. His sister brought him a copy of Fyodor Dostoevsky's "Crime and Punishment," in the original Russian. Reading it, he reflected on his own crime, once again regarding himself as the hero of his own narrative.

"Honestly, it made me proud of what I'd done," he said.

He was released in advance of his trial, which was delayed until 2023 by bureaucratic issues and then the coronavirus pandemic.

In the meantime, Borremans traveled to Miami and Los Angeles to meet with the FBI about the alleged role of Sebastian Rivera, the Chilean coach based in the United States, and some U.S.-based players suspected of involvement in the match-fixing operation. He brought along a memo from the Belgian judge assigned to the investigation.

"To the competent judicial authorities of the United States of America," it began.

It named eight tennis players living in the United States as appearing to be part of Sargsyan's network, along with Rivera. The judge requested that Rivera's home be searched and that he be interrogated.

"Rivera turns out to be a very important person having an intense cooperation with Sargsyan," the letter said.

Sitting across from the FBI agents, Borremans sensed that they weren't interested in the investigation. The Americans interrogated Rivera, but that's where the case ended. A senior FBI official said in an interview that the agency reviewed the case as a courtesy to the Belgian police, but he would not comment on the details.

"There was no separate U.S. investigation," said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to comment publicly on the case.

Borremans had more luck in Europe. Slovakian authorities raided the home of Dagmara Baskova, one of Rivera's recruits. They handed her a document explaining the charges against her.

"I asked the officers, 'Can I go to jail?'" she recalled in an interview. "And they said I could."

She said she lied to authorities about the total amount of money Sargsyan had paid her, claiming it was 1,500 euros a match instead of 10,000, allowing her to avoid fraud charges.

But in the interview she acknowledged that she was paid 10,000 euros for each thrown match, as the Belgian investigation showed.

"Everybody thinks that I'm so dumb that I sold them only for 1,500 euros," she said with a laugh. "But it was not for 1,500 euros."

Baskova is now a tennis coach based in Austria.

In France, authorities briefly detained and questioned four players, including Lescure and Thivant. So far, none of them have been charged. Lescure is a tennis coach at an academy in Beijing, while Thivant plays club tournaments across France. Neither player responded to requests for comment.

Recognizing how little players earn at the sport's lower tiers, the ATP Tour last month announced a pilot program offering a minimum wage for men and women in the top 250. The tour called it "a significant step towards ensuring a greater number of players can make a sustainable living from the sport."

As a part of the initiative, players ranked between 176 and 250 would be guaranteed $75,000 a year.

"Lol still not enough," wrote Australian player Nick Kyrgios on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter.

The tennis tour has in recent months issued a raft of bans and suspensions. Younès Rachidi, the Moroccan player who recruited Hossam, was banned for life — for "the highest number of offences by one individual ever detected," the tour wrote in a news release.

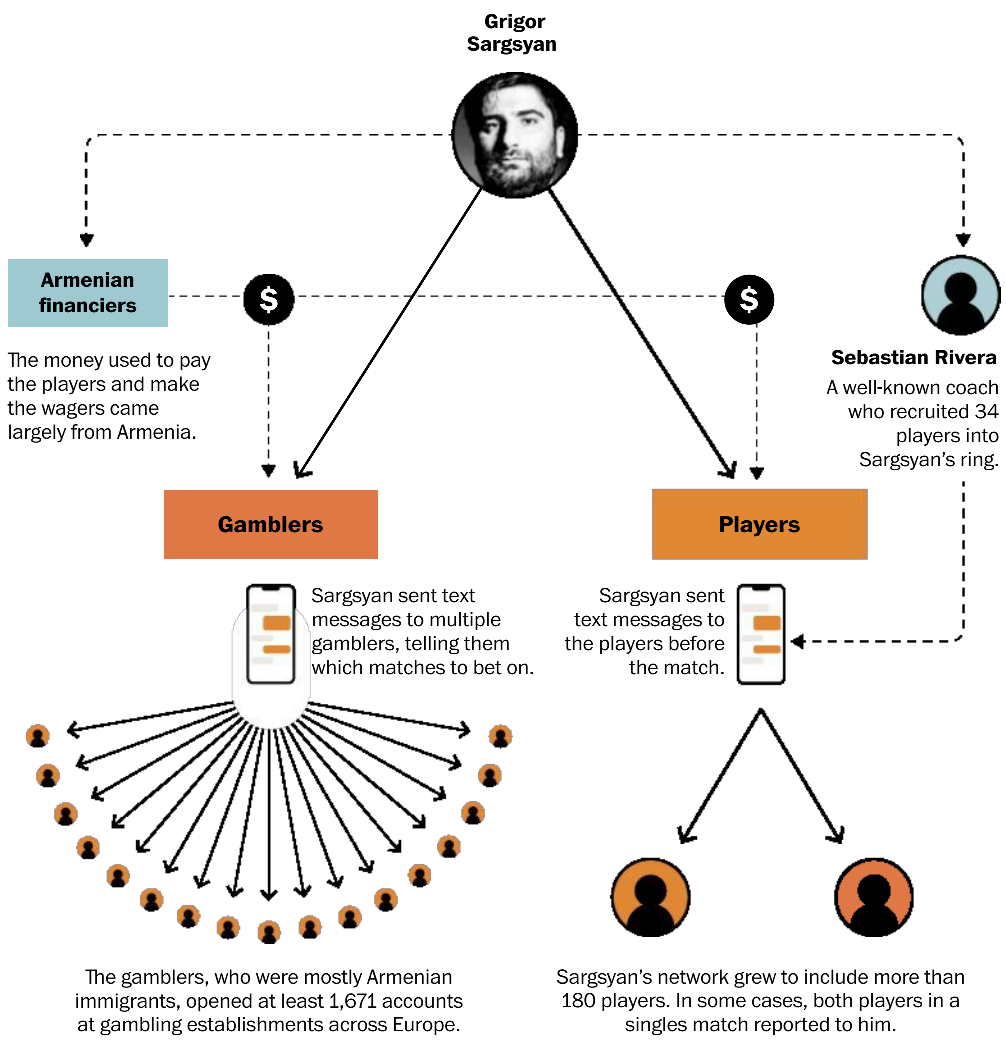
"I don't even know where my racket is," Rachidi said in an interview. "The sport has been ruined for me."

Lescure and Aleksandrina Naydenova, a Bulgarian player, also were banned for life. So was Rivera, who now lives in Las Vegas, where he offers private tennis lessons. The ban, he said, has made it harder to find work. Baskova was suspended for 12 years and fined $40,000.

Both Karim Hossam and his younger brother, Youssef, whom he brought into the ring, were banned for life, too, unable to play or coach on the tour, or even attend professional tournaments. In its 2020 ban of Youssef, the tennis integrity agency said he "conspired with other parties to carry out an extensive campaign of betting-related corruption at the lower levels of professional tennis."

Youssef is on the professional padel tennis tour alongside other members of Sargsyan's ring. Karim coaches youth tennis in Cairo.

When the tennis tour announced their suspensions, it made no mention of Sargsyan. The scale of his network had remained a secret until now, in part because the tour is still working on active investigations related to the operation, many of them led by Bain.



Source: Belgian police and federal prosecutor's office.

SEE TENNIS ON A14

Five things you need to know about how a gambling ring corrupted tennis

BY KEVIN SIEFF

A Washington Post investigation of a vast match-fixing ring, and how the changing nature of gambling has corrupted tennis, is based on dozens of interviews with players, coaches, investigators, tennis officials and match fixers. The Post obtained tens of thousands of the central match fixer's text messages, hundreds of pages of internal European law-enforcement documents, and the interrogation transcripts of players.

1. **Gambling on tennis has exploded in recent years, increasing to roughly $50 billion annually.** About a quarter of that sum is wagered on matches within the sport's lowest tier, many of them so obscure that they aren't televised and offer meager prize money, often just over $2,000 for a tournament's winner. Match fixers have found opportunity at the sport's lowest level to bribe players who struggle to earn a sustainable income.

2. **With 47,000 matches a year in 65 countries, the International Tennis Federation proved particularly vulnerable to match-fixing.** Because of the emergence of "spot betting," in which gamblers can bet on a point or a game, rather than a contest's outcome, players are now able to work with match fixers to throw a component of some of the least-watched matches, while still defeating their opponent.

3. **The ring, based in Belgium, built a roster of more than 180 professional players from more than 30 countries who would fix matches, or parts of matches, investigators said.** A lawyer representing professional tennis said it was the biggest in the history of tennis. The man behind the ring, Grigor Sargsyan, traveled around Europe to keep his roster happy. He paid the players with envelopes full of cash at Paris train stations; he took them out to fancy dinners; he bought an engagement ring so one player could give it to his girlfriend.

4. **Even after Sargsyan's arrest and conviction, professional tennis continues to receive about 100 alerts of irregular betting each year, an indication of fixed matches.** That's more than in any other sport. The ITF has extended its contract with Sportradar, a Swiss company that provides real-time data on obscure tennis matches to gamblers around the world, even after a 2018 internal review cautioned the tour against the impact of that contract on match-fixing syndicates.

5. **Law enforcement agencies around the world have grown increasingly concerned about the link between sports gambling and organized crime.** The FBI and Interpol have each formed units to combat match-fixing. The United Nations has gotten involved, calling organized crime "a major and growing threat to sport." On the tennis tour, the sport has hired a team of investigators who interrogate players and seize their phones when they suspect that athletes are throwing matches. It was that team of investigators — and one particularly dogged Belgian police officer — that eventually took down Sargsyan's ring.



SEBASTIEN VAN MALLEGHEM FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Grigor Sargsyan in Haren Prison. Convicted of leading a criminal organization, money laundering and fraud, he received a five-year term, which began Aug. 11.

TENNIS FROM A13

It wasn't until late April of this year that Sargsyan arrived in Oudenaarde for his hearing, along with most of the 27 gamblers and tennis players who were part of his network in Belgium.

The court is in a Gothic-style building on the bank of the Scheldt River. Sargsyan sat near the front of the courtroom.

Mathieu Baert, a lawyer representing professional tennis, described in his opening remarks how match-fixing "takes away the essence of the sport" and invites organized criminals into tennis.

And then he turned to Sargsyan, describing the scale of his network, which was larger than any other match-fixing ring in the history of professional tennis.

"Biggest in size, biggest in money, and biggest in number of matches fixed and number of players involved," Baert said. "More than 181 tennis players are involved; more than 375 matches are involved."

Sargsyan, in a blue sweater, a blue button-down shirt and jeans, sported an almost indiscernibly sly smile.

De Greef, who had been provisionally suspended by the tour, sat on the same bench as Sargsyan and other Belgian players. When he took the stand, he denied his role in the ring.

"I've been playing tennis since I was 5 years old. I spent about 20 years training and getting to the level I was at. I always gave everything for the matches I played," he said.

De Greef declined multiple interview requests. He was found guilty of fraud and working with a criminal organization.

When the judge called Sargsyan's name, he approached the bench with his attorney, Dimitri Margery. Neither denied Sargsyan's role in the network. But Margery alluded to Andranik Martirosyan, the Armenian whose bank account had received millions of euros from Sargsyan's winnings, according to prosecutors.

"This is a man who I don't think has ever been heard," Margery said, adding that Martirosyan was "a sort of pivotal figure in the whole thing."

But Martirosyan, 35, was still in Armenia. When The Washington Post visited his home outside Yerevan, the Armenian capital, it was freshly renovated with beige limestone. A new truck sat in the driveway. His wife said she would ask Martirosyan if he was willing to be interviewed, but he refused. Belgian authorities told The Post they wanted their own case to conclude before pursuing his arrest.

The judge paused and then looked at Sargsyan.

"Do you wish to add anything of your own?"

"I want to turn the page and live a more just life," Sargsyan responded.

When Sargsyan walked out of the courtroom, a Washington Post journalist approached him. How did he feel about the proceedings?

Sargsyan couldn't help himself.

"If the prosecutor knew what I know, there would be many more people on trial," he said.

About two months later, the judge held a sentencing hearing. This time, Sargsyan wore a black T-shirt and jeans. Some members of the prosecution were bracing for a light sentence, thinking the judge might see the case as unserious because it involved sports.

She read the verdict aloud.

"The court sentences Grigor Sargsyan to a … prison sentence of five years."

He was convicted of leading a criminal organization, money laundering and fraud. Sargsyan was told to report to a Belgian prison on Aug. 11 to begin his sentence.

Sargsyan's expression went blank.

After court ended, Sargsyan returned to his parents' apartment above the Polish deli. He had resumed work there, hauling boxes of pickled cucumbers from the shop's front stoop as his mother yelled instructions from inside. It was the same job he had done before his match-fixing career took off.

He went straight upstairs to the bedroom where the idea for his empire was born. He pulled out his phone and began composing an email about the verdict and what it meant for him.

"A tragic end to this adventure," he wrote.

Pauline Denys in Brussels and Koba Ryckewaert in Oudenaarde, Belgium, contributed to this report.

As Kim heads to meet Putin in Russia, U.S. warns against weapons deal

N. Korean leader likely to offer arms in exchange for food aid, technology

BY MICHELLE YE HEE LEE AND CATHERINE BELTON

SEOUL — Weapons deals are expected to be top of the agenda as North Korean leader Kim Jong Un heads to Russia for a meeting with President Vladimir Putin, whose government seeks to replenish stockpiles depleted in its war against Ukraine.

Kim is set to meet with Putin in the coming days, the Kremlin said Monday. Spokesperson Dmitry Peskov told a Russian reporter to expect a "full-blown" visit, with talks between delegations and a "formal dinner."

The meeting in Vladivostok is likely to fuel concerns in Washington and like-minded capitals about increased military cooperation between Moscow and Pyongyang at a critical juncture in Russia's war in Ukraine. U.S. and South Korean officials also have warned that North Korea may seek critical technologies from Russia to boost Pyongyang's nuclear and weapons ambitions.

The two leaders are increasingly finding their perceived interests aligning in their efforts to reduce U.S. influence in the region.

Kim is likely to ask for food aid and weapons technology in return for supplying Russia with Soviet-designed munitions, according to U.S. and South Korean officials and security experts. Pyongyang is also likely to be interested in increasing the number of North Korean laborers working in Russia to generate much-needed foreign currency, despite U.N. bans.

White House officials have urged North Korea in recent weeks to cease its arms negotiations with Moscow and to stick to public commitments it has made to not provide or sell arms to Russia.

State Department spokesperson Matt Miller said at a news briefing Monday that the U.S. government would be watching closely for sanctions violations. "We don't think it's a social visit," Miller told reporters.



GOVERNMENT OF NORTH KOREA/KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY/AP

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, left, toasts with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Vladivostok, Russia, on April 25, 2019. Kim this week is expected to visit Russia on his first known international trip since he imposed a strict border shutdown in early 2020.

"We urge the DPRK to abide by the public commitments that Pyongyang has made to not provide or sell arms to Russia," said Adrienne Watson, a spokesperson for the White House National Security Council, using an official acronym to refer to North Korea.

Kim "will soon visit" Russia at the invitation of Putin and "will meet and have a talk with Comrade Putin during the visit," according to the Korean Central News Agency, the North Korean state news agency.

Making his first known international trip since he imposed a strict border shutdown in early 2020, Kim left Pyongyang on Sunday on his famously slow-moving armored train, accompanied by other top government officials, according to state media.

Although Pyongyang and Vladivostok are only 425 miles apart as the crow flies, the journey takes roughly a day.

Kim arrived in Russia sometime early Tuesday, the South Korean Defense Ministry said.

The annual Eastern Economic Forum is being held this week in Vladivostok, with Putin expected to attend on Tuesday, the Russian government said. South Korean analysts have pointed to that day as the most likely date for the two men to meet.

Kim's visit would be a sign that the countries have reached an agreement to expand the weapons trade between Moscow and Pyongyang, said Sergei Markov, a Kremlin-connected political analyst.

Washington and its Western allies are rallying behind Ukraine in the war through weapons and financial support and with sanctions on Moscow. Meanwhile, President Biden is strengthening ties with Tokyo and Seoul in the face of North Korean threats. And Washington is not willing to give the sanctions relief that Kim seeks.

Russia needs a steady supply of munitions to help stave off Ukraine's counteroffensive, forcing it, in isolation over the invasion, to turn to pariah states such as North Korea and Iran for cheap and compatible sources of weaponry.

Moscow is on track to fire more than 7 million rounds of artillery this year, in a grueling battle of attrition to hold onto the territorial gains it made last year.

The country has ramped up its own production of artillery and is set to produce some 2.5 million rounds this year, but this is still a significant shortfall in comparison with its needs, according to Jack Watling, the senior research fellow for land warfare at the Royal United Services Institute, a British think tank.

U.S. analysts say Russia is so desperate for weapons support that it welcomes any aid — even from a small-arms player such as North Korea that may provide minimal impact on the front lines. In addition to stockpiles of ammunition that is compatible with Russian weaponry, North Korea also has production capacity to which Russia hopes to gain access.

Putin's decision to meet with Kim may also be a response to South Korea's support for Ukraine by backfilling U.S. munitions supply and potentially shipping weapons directly to Kyiv, said Andrei Lankov, a Russia-North Korea relations expert at Kookmin University in Seoul.

Since Russia's invasion, Pyongyang has become a vocal supporter of Moscow, joining the select club of just five countries that declined to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and it also has expressed support for Russia's illegal annexation of parts of Ukraine.

Russia has tacitly supported North Korea's nuclear and weapons advancement since the 2019 collapse of U.S.-North Korea diplomatic talks. Along with China, Russia has hampered U.N. Security Council efforts to impose sanctions on Pyongyang for violating the council's resolutions banning ballistic weapons testing.

At the end of World War II, the Soviet Union helped usher in a communist regime in the northern half of the Korean Peninsula. North Korea's founding leader, Kim Il Sung, invaded the U.S.-aligned South in 1950 with the support of the Soviet Union and China.

The war ended in a cease-fire in 1953, and North Korea became heavily dependent on the Soviet Union for economic assistance. The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 exacerbated North Korea's food insecurity, which led to a famine estimated to have killed as many as 3 million North Koreans.

Since the end of the Cold War, North Korea has balanced its relationship with Russia and China as the ruling Kim regime has sought to decrease both countries' influence over Pyongyang and to be self-sufficient.

Now, the two leaders are looking to signal that they want to work together, though it remains unclear whether either country would secure long-term and tangible gains from such a summit.

"Both sides seek to create the impression that a military cooperation deal is imminent, hoping that this impression will serve as an effective tool for diplomatic leverage," Lankov said.

Belton reported from London. Min Joo Kim in Seoul and Adam Taylor in Washington contributed to this report.

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Storm unleashes flooding on Libya's coastline, causing massive destruction

BY SARAH DADOUCH AND AMUDALAT AJASA



MEDIA OFFICE OF LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A government-provided photo shows flood damage in Benghazi, Libya. Two senior officials said that as many as 2,000 people in another coastal city, Derna, are feared dead.

BEIRUT — A powerful storm that unleashed torrential rain and extreme flooding across northeastern Libya has devastated communities on its Mediterranean coastline, causing widespread damage and an unknown number of fatalities, particularly in the port city of Derna.

Authorities in the east declared Derna a disaster zone Monday after floodwaters burst through its two aging dams, inundating wide swaths of the city and leaving muddy, churning river in their wake.

"Derna is a tragedy, a catastrophe," said Asmahan Belaoun, a Libyan lawmaker with family in the city.

Two senior officials in the region said Monday that as many as 2,000 people in Derna were feared dead, and thousands more may be missing, but the source for their estimates was unclear. In a phone interview from Benghazi, about 150 miles west of Derna, Belaoun said the water swept away streets and buildings and that she didn't know if her family members survived.

"All I know is that their buildings are gone," she said, adding that helicopters were needed to "save what is left to save" in the city.

Libya, which is split between two rival governments, was already coping with crumbling infrastructure — the result of a years-long civil war that broke out after the fall of Moammar Gaddafi's.

Telecommunication networks were down in Derna on Monday, Belaoun and other officials said, making it difficult to assess the number of deaths and the true extent of the damage. Unverified videos posted on social media and aired on Libyan news networks showed apocalyptic scenes of a city submerged.

At least 150 people were killed in Derna as a result of the storm, a tropical-storm-like cyclone named Daniel, a local official with the Libyan Red Crescent told Reuters, adding that the organization expected the death toll to rise.

But in a choppy phone interview with a local television station, Osama Hamad, prime minister of the eastern Libyan government, estimated that 2,000 were dead.

"We are alerting all medical apparatuses, all medical bodies, to move to Derna," he said, his voice dipping in and out from the poor connection. "There are no communications — I had to leave Derna to get this connection."

The eastern government's interior minister, Issam Abu Zureibah, also said that at least 1,000 people were killed. "The damages are very serious," he said in an interview with the Saudi Arabia-based news channel Al-Hadath. "There are areas that were swept away entirely into the sea."

The last instance of large-scale flooding in Libya was in 2019, when four people died in the southwest of the country, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Storm Daniel wreaked havoc in Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria last week, killing at least 26 people in the three countries, according to the Associated Press.

The storm formed amid the same extreme weather pattern linked to deadly flooding in Spain and extreme heat over large parts of western Europe that broke dozens of records.

After it triggered severe flooding in Greece, Daniel transitioned into what is known as a "medicane," or tropical-like cyclone that occasionally forms over the Mediterranean Sea. The storm became stronger as it drew energy from the abnormally warm waters, a process intensified by human-caused climate change, before drifting to the south and unloading excessive rainfall over northeastern Libya.

Libya's National Center of Meteorology reported rainfall totals of 414.1 millimeters — more than 16 inches — of rain over 24 hours in Bayda, where at least 12 people were reported dead, according to Floodlist, a website that aggregates flood information. Bayda only receives about half an inch in a typical September and about 21.4 inches of rain in an average year.

About 170 millimeters of rain — 2.75 inches — fell in Al Abraq in the Derna District. Witnesses told Reuters that the floodwaters in Derna reached as high as 10 feet.

The storm was expected to bring heavy rains and flooding to northern Egypt into Tuesday before dissipating. Egyptian's Meteorological Authority warned residents in the greater Cairo area to prepare for major rainfall. But officials also said that the storm lost most of its energy over the arid terrain of Libya so its intensity was easing.

"We hope for the urgent opening of a sea corridor, and we hope for urgent international interference urgently," said Ahmad Amadward, a member of Derna's town council, in a video message carried by Derna's Municipal Council Facebook page.

Ajasa contributed from Washington. Jason Samenow in Washington contributed to this report.

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Sunak says U.K. lawmakers ‘rightly appalled’ by reports of Chinese spying

BY WILLIAM BOOTH



NEIL HALL/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

The Houses of Parliament in London. News broke over the weekend that two men, including a researcher in the House of Commons, had been arrested in March on suspicion of spying for China. Prime minister Rishi Sunak is facing questions about his handling of the matter.

LONDON — Prime Minister Rishi Sunak told British lawmakers Monday that they were “rightly appalled” at the notion of “espionage in this building,” after news reports that a young researcher in the House of Commons had been arrested on suspicion of spying for China.

Sunak said he had confronted Chinese Premier Li Qiang on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in India on Sunday and was “emphatic … that actions which seek to undermine British democracy are completely unacceptable and will never be tolerated.”

But the British prime minister faced questions from the House of Commons about what he knew, and when, about the arrest and why his government remained reluctant to label China a threat.

Keir Starmer, the leader of the opposition Labour Party, pressed Sunak to say when the government first challenged China on the matter: In March, when the Metropolitan Police carried out the arrest under the Official Secrets Act? Or only now, after the embarrassing news broke?

Lawmakers from Sunak’s party appeared to be the most angry about a possible security breach, asking why they had to learn of the arrests first in a newspaper.

The accused researcher, who had worked directly with top lawmakers in the Conservative Party in government, said through his lawyers, “I am completely innocent.”

Police said the man, who is in his 20s, was arrested in Edinburgh, Scotland, while a second man, in his 30s, was arrested in Oxfordshire, England. Authorities have not released the names of the suspects, as neither has been charged. Both were released on bail until October and are being investigated by the Met’s Counter Terrorism Command, which oversees espionage inquiries.

For its part, China called the allegations “completely fabricated.”

“We urge the U.K. to stop spreading false information, anti-China political manipulation and malicious slander,” said Mao Ning, spokesperson for China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The arrests were reported over the weekend by the Sunday Times of London, which said the researcher had worked for Alicia Kearns, chair of the powerful Foreign Affairs Committee, and her predecessor, Tom Tugendhat, now security minister. It was unknown what the suspect’s security clearance was or what kinds of documents he had access to.

The British law firm Birnberg Peirce issued a statement Monday on his behalf.

“I feel forced to respond to the media accusations that I am a ‘Chinese spy,’” the statement said. “It is wrong that I should be obliged to make any form of public comment on the misreporting that has taken place.”

He continued: “It is vital that it is known that I am completely innocent. I have spent my career to date trying to educate others about the challenge and threats presented by the Chinese Communist Party. To do what has been claimed against me in extravagant news reporting would be against everything I stand for.”

> *“These are extremely worrying reports about the level of infiltration of Chinese-supported forces into our democracy.”*
> **Liz Truss,** member of Parliament and former prime minister

In Parliament, Speaker of the House of Commons Lindsay Hoyle confirmed the two March arrests and reported that a limited number of people were “immediately briefed on a strictly confidential basis.”

Hoyle said: “This is an ongoing, sensitive investigation. Members of course understand that public discussion will be wholly inappropriate.”

Oliver Dowden, the deputy prime minister, told the Commons that the arrested men were facing “serious allegations, and it is right they are being investigated.”

Pressed on what Britain was doing to protect its secrets, the deputy prime minister noted that it had banned Chinese IT companies from government offices, and TikTok from government computers and mobile phones.

Earlier, the government banned Chinese tech giant Huawei from Britain’s 5G networks.

Multiple lawmakers argued that the spying allegations should lead to support for a harder line against China.

“These are extremely worrying reports about the level of infiltration of Chinese-supported forces into our democracy,” said Liz Truss, who served 49 days as prime minister last year and remains a Conservative lawmaker in Parliament.

She asked why the government would not recognize China as “the largest threat, both to the world and to the United Kingdom, for freedom and democracy?”

In a briefing with reporters Monday, Sunak’s official spokesman maintained that this government is “always very clear-eyed about the risks” presented by China.

“They do represent an epoch-defining challenge to the U.K. We do not think it is right to reduce the approach to just one word given we need to take the opportunity to engage with China, not to just shout from the sideline,” said the spokesman, who by tradition is not named.

Olivia O’Sullivan, a scholar at the Chatham House think tank, said she wasn’t surprised that China would be determined to exert influence “by cultivating people earlier in their career.”

“One of the broader challenges the U.K. faces is there are a range of ways China seeks influence, including in sectors of society — such as higher education, research and industry — less traditionally associated with national security,” she said.

Alex Younger, the former head of the British intelligence agency MI6, told BBC radio, “I tend to switch off when I hear: ‘It’s a threat, isn’t a threat. We should call it a threat, we shouldn’t call it a threat.’”

He said the answer to China cannot be contained in one word.

“We need to, geopolitically, be capable of chewing gum and walking at the same time,” he said — engaging with China, competing with China, “and sometimes we need to confront China. In my experience, just being nice to them doesn’t get you very far.”

Christian Shepherd in Taipei contributed to this report.

The Washington Post | LIVE

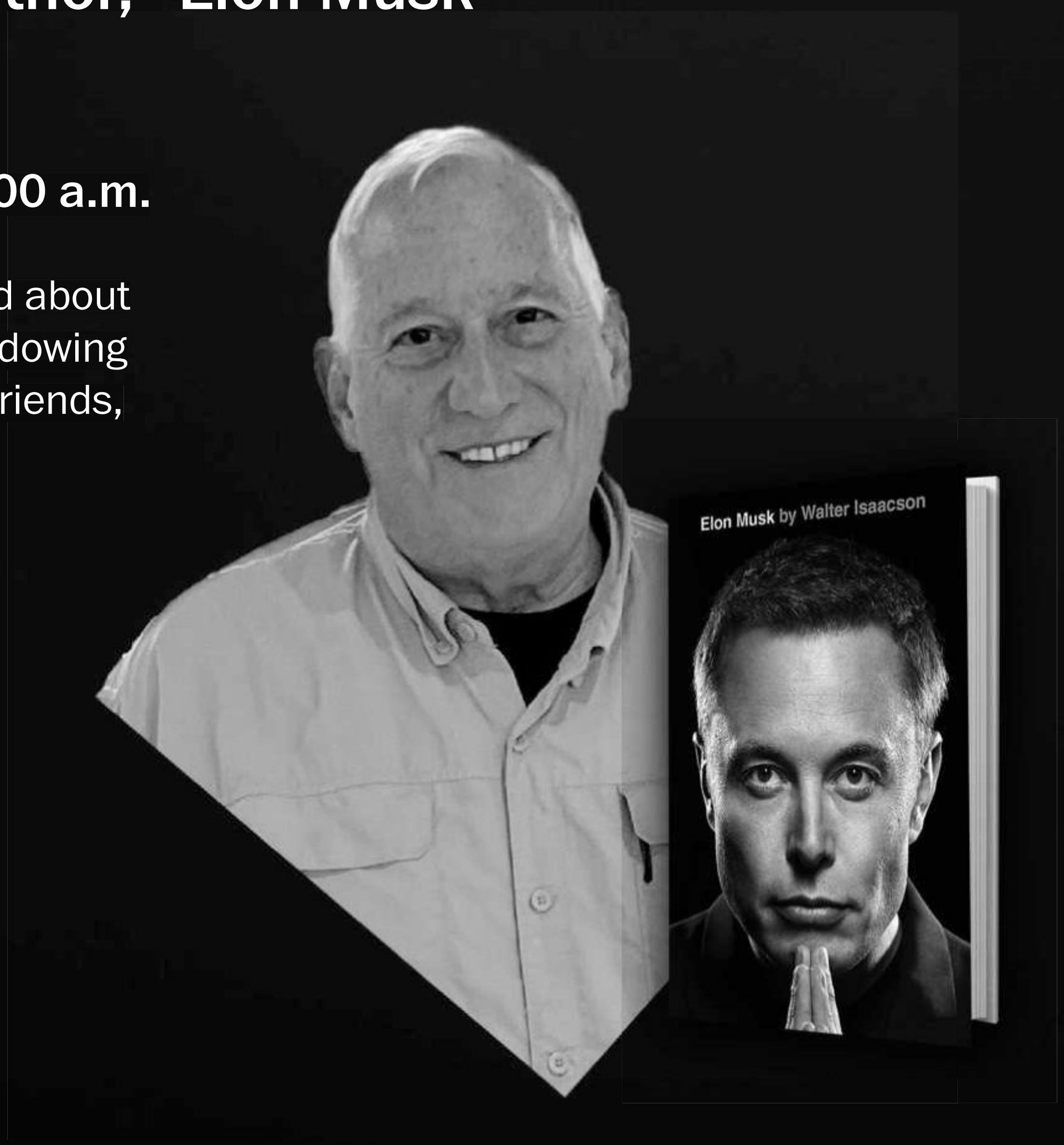
Walter Isaacson

Author, “Elon Musk”

Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 11:00 a.m.

Isaacson reveals what he learned about Elon Musk after two years of shadowing him and interviewing his family, friends, critics and colleagues.

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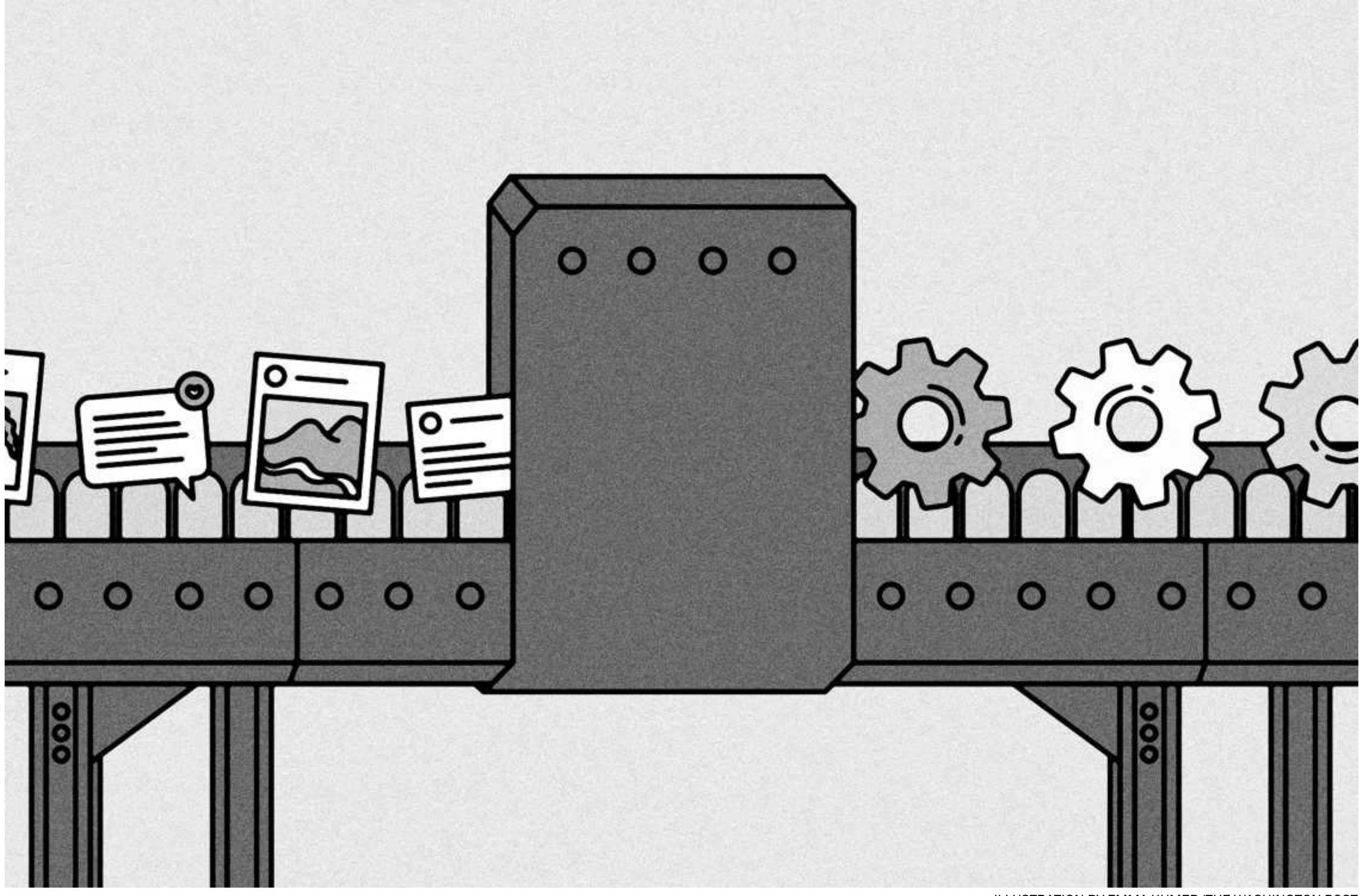


ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA KUMER/THE WASHINGTON POST

Consumers can do little to stop their Gmail, Instagram from training AI



Geoffrey A. Fowler

It's your Gmail. It's also Google's artificial intelligence factory.

Unless you turn it off, Google uses your Gmail to train an AI to finish other people's sentences. It does that by analyzing how you respond to its suggestions. And when you opt in to using a new Gmail function called Help Me Write, Google uses what you type into it to improve its AI writing, too. You can't say no.

Your email is just the start. Meta, the owner of Facebook, took a billion Instagram posts from public accounts to train an AI, and didn't ask permission. Microsoft uses your chats with Bing to coach the AI bot to better answer questions, and you can't stop it.

Increasingly, tech companies are taking your conversations, photos and documents to teach their AI how to write, paint and pretend to be human. You might be accustomed to them selling your data or using it to target you with ads. But now they're using it to create lucrative new technologies that could upend the economy — and make Big Tech even bigger.

We don't yet understand the risk that this behavior poses to your privacy, reputation or work. But there's not much you can do about it.

Sometimes the companies handle your data with care. Other times, their behavior is out of sync with common expectations for what happens with your information, including stuff you thought was supposed to be private.

Zoom set off alarms last month by claiming it could use the private contents of video chats to improve its AI products, before reversing course. Earlier this summer, Google updated its privacy policy to say it can use any "publicly available information" to train AI. (Google didn't say why it thinks it has that right. But it says that's not a new policy and it just wanted to be clear it applies to its Bard chatbot.)

If you're using pretty much any of Big Tech's buzzy new generative AI products, you've likely been compelled to agree to help make their AI smarter, sometimes including having humans review what you do with them.

Lost in the data grab: Most people have no way to make truly informed decisions about how their data is being used to train AI. That can feel like a privacy violation — or just like theft.

"AI represents a once-in-a-generation leap forward," says Nicholas Piachaud, a director at the open source nonprofit Mozilla Foundation. "This is an appropriate moment to step back and think: What's at stake here? Are we willing just to give away our right to privacy, our personal data to these big companies? Or should privacy be the default?"

New privacy risks

It isn't new for tech companies to use your data to train AI products. Netflix uses what you watch and rate to generate recommendations. Meta uses what you like, comment on and even spend time looking at to train its AI how to order your news feed and show you ads.

Yet generative AI is different. Today's AI arms race needs lots and lots of data. Elon Musk, chief executive of Tesla, recently bragged to his biographer that he had access to 160 billion video frames per day shot from the cameras built into people's cars to fuel his AI ambitions.

"Everybody is sort of acting as if there is this manifest destiny of technological tools built with people's data," says Ben Winters, a senior counsel at the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC), who has been studying the harms of generative AI. "With the increasing use of AI tools comes this skewed incentive to collect as much data as you can upfront."

All of this brings some unique privacy risks. Training an AI to learn everything about the world means it also ends up learning intimate things about individuals, from financial and medical details to people's photos and writing.

Some tech companies even acknowledge that in their fine print. When you sign up to use Google's new Workspace Labs AI writing and image-generation helpers for Gmail, Docs, Sheets and Slides, the company warns: "don't include personal, confidential, or sensitive information."

The actual process of training AI can be a bit creepy. Companies employ humans to review some of how we use products such as Google's new AI-fueled search called SGE. In its fine print for Workspace Labs, Google warns it may hold your data seen by human reviewers for up to four years in a manner not directly associated with your account.

Even worse for your privacy, AI sometimes leaks data back out. Generative AI that's notoriously hard to control can regurgitate personal info in response to a new, sometimes unforeseen prompt.

It even happened to a tech company. Samsung employees were reportedly using ChatGPT and discovered on three different occasions that the chatbot spit back out company secrets. The company then banned the use of AI chatbots at work. Apple, Spotify, Verizon and many banks have done the same.

The Big Tech companies told me they take pains to prevent leaks. Microsoft says it de-identifies user data entered in Bing chat. Google says it automatically removes personally identifiable information from training data. Meta says it will train generative AI not to reveal private information — so it might share the birthday of a celebrity, but not regular people.

Okay, but how effective are these measures? That's among the questions the companies don't give straight answers to. "While our filters are at the cutting edge in the industry, we're continuing to improve them," says Google. And how often do they leak? "We believe it's very limited," it says.

It's great to know Google's AI only sometimes leaks our information. "It's really difficult for them to say, with a straight face, 'We don't have any sensitive data,'" says Winters of EPIC.

Perhaps privacy isn't even the right word for this mess. It's also about control. Who'd ever have imagined a vacation photo they posted in 2009 would be used by a megacorporation in 2023 to teach an AI to make art, put a photographer out of a job, or identify someone's face to police? When they take your information to train AI, companies can ignore your original intent in creating or sharing it in the first place.

There's a thin line between "making products better" and theft, and tech companies think they get to draw it.

Your data, their rules

Which data of ours is and isn't off limits? Much of the answer is wrapped up in lawsuits, investigations and hopefully some new laws. But meanwhile, Big Tech is making up its own rules.

I asked Google, Meta and Microsoft to tell me exactly when they take user data from products that are core to modern life to make their new generative AI products smarter. Getting straight answers was like chasing a squirrel through a funhouse.

They told me they hadn't used nonpublic user information in their largest AI models without permission. But those very carefully chosen words leave a lot of occasions when they are, in fact, building lucrative AI businesses with our digital lives.

Not all AI uses for data are the same, or even problematic. But as users, we practically need a degree in computer science to understand what's going on.

Google is a great example. It tells me its "foundational" AI models — the software behind things like Bard, its answer-anything chatbot — come primarily from "publicly available data from the internet." Our private Gmail didn't contribute to that, the company says.

However, Google does still use Gmail to train other AI products, like Smart Compose (which finishes sentences for you) and the new creative coach Help Me Write that's part of its Workspace Labs. Those uses are fundamentally different from "foundational" AI, Google says, because it's using data from a product to improve that product. The Smart Compose AI, it says, anonymizes and aggregates our information and improves the AI "without exposing the actual content in question." It says the Help Me Write AI learns from your "interactions, user-initiated feedback, and usage metrics." How are you supposed to know what's actually going on?

Perhaps there's no way to create something like Smart Compose without data about how you use your email. But that doesn't mean Google should just switch it on by default. In Europe, where there are stricter data laws, Smart Compose is off by default. Nor should access to your data be a requirement to use its latest and greatest products, even if Google calls them "experiments."

Meta told me it didn't train its biggest generative AI model, called Llama 2, on user data — public or private. However, it has trained other AI, like an image-identification system called SEER, on people's public Instagram accounts. To avoid that, you'd have to have set your account to private, or quit Instagram.

And Meta wouldn't answer my questions about how it's using our personal data to train generative AI products it is expected to unveil soon. After I pushed back, the company said it would "not train our generative AI models on people's messages with their friends and families." At least it agreed to draw some kind of red line.

Microsoft updated its service agreement this summer with broad language about user data, and it didn't make any assurances to me about limiting the use of our data to train its AI products. Microsoft tells me it does not use our data from Word or other Microsoft 365 programs to "train underlying foundational models," but that's not the question I was asking.

The consumer advocates at Mozilla also launched a campaign calling on Microsoft to come clean. "If nine experts in privacy can't understand what Microsoft does with your data, what chance does the average person have?" Mozilla says.

It doesn't have to be this way. Microsoft has lots of assurances for lucrative corporate customers, including those chatting with the enterprise version of Bing, about keeping their data private. "Data always remains within the customer's tenant and is never used for other purposes," says a spokesman.

Why do companies have more of a right to privacy than all of us?

To better protect your ad privacy, tweak these new Chrome settings

BY HEATHER KELLY

If you use Google's Chrome browser regularly, you've likely seen a new privacy-related screen in recent weeks.

With a combination of soothing rainbow colors and language that sounds very pro-privacy, the page announces "Enhanced ad privacy in Chrome." You have two options: Settings and Got It.

It's easier to hit Got It, but if you're concerned about your data and privacy, take a moment to learn more about what's happening and which settings you should change. Google isn't necessarily going to default you into the settings that best protect your privacy.

This is a new way Google is trying to track what you do on the web to help advertisers target you. Google says this is better for your privacy than older tracking methods. But it's still tracking — and people who care about their privacy may want to shut it off. It's all part of Google's promise to phase out the use of cookies for tracking in Chrome.

What settings do I change?

From your Chrome browser, go to Settings > Privacy and Security > Ad Privacy. You can also try typing this link in Chrome: chrome://settings/adPrivacy.

You'll see three options and, for maximum privacy, can turn them off, one by one. If the toggle is gray, it's off, and if it's blue, it's still on.

Ad topics is a feature that uses your recent browsing history to detect what topics you're into and show you personalized ads. If you spent the week looking at dog sites, maybe you'll get an ad for a dog bed. Google says these topics are deleted after four weeks and if you keep it turned on, you can see the list yourself. Turn this off.

Site-suggested ads is an option that lets individual sites you've visited make similar conclusions about what you might be into (dog sweaters? hammocks?) and show you ads for that on other sites. If you keep this on, you can later manually block individual sites from the same screen. But it's easier to just, yes, turn this off.

Ad measurement lets different sites and advertisers share information about you to try to figure out how well their ads are doing. Turn this off.

What else can I do?

Google's Chrome isn't the only browser option you have. If you're on a Mac, you can use the Safari browser, or Firefox, which works across operating systems. You can also experiment with different settings and third-party tools to minimize the data Chrome (and other browsers) collect. If you want to go the extra mile, you could try a VPN, but make sure you choose a trustworthy provider.

This isn't the only new setting Chrome users have seen as of late. Google recently added an "Enhanced Safe Browsing" mode for Chrome and Gmail users, to warn them about suspicious sites.

The setting, according to our Tech Friend newsletter writer, Shira Ovide, is worth turning on to protect yourself even though there are some trade offs.

DIGEST

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Regulator proposes registry for fraudsters

Financial fraudsters should be listed in a national registry that law enforcement and everyday investors alike can search to identify bad actors, a top financial regulator said.

Christy Goldsmith Romero, a commissioner on the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, is proposing that federal law enforcement and regulatory agencies work together to establish the database. It would include companies and individuals convicted of or fined for a financial crime.

"This is about getting information out for people to arm themselves, because it's really hard to get money back for victims in fraud cases," Goldsmith Romero said.

The idea, she said, is to create a one-stop site, a Better Business Bureau-style database for investors to vet anybody pitching financial services. Law enforcement agents from the federal to the local level could also use the registry to check for possible repeat offenders as they investigate potential crimes.

Goldsmith Romero said the explosion in cryptocurrency-based scams in recent years inspired the proposal.

— Tory Newmyer

AIRLINE INDUSTRY

JetBlue to transfer some Spirit gates

JetBlue Airways agreed to transfer some Spirit Airlines gates and flight slots at three airports to help lessen antitrust concerns over its pending acquisition of the low-cost carrier, the airline said Monday.

JetBlue will shift all of Spirit's holdings at Boston Logan International and Newark Liberty International in New Jersey and part of its assets at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International in Florida to Allegiant Travel, JetBlue said in a statement. The airline previously agreed to divest Spirit's holdings at New York's LaGuardia Airport to Frontier Airlines.

The U.S. Justice Department is trying to break up the JetBlue-Spirit deal on grounds it would give the combined company too much market power in certain areas and lead to higher fares. A trial is scheduled for October. JetBlue says the acquisition is necessary for it to compete with larger carriers that control more than 80 percent of the U.S. commercial airline market.

— Bloomberg News

HOUSING

Moves to rural areas drive up home prices

Rural America is booming, but the population growth boosting local economies is also putting a strain on housing options.

The influx — which started during the pandemic — has continued. The latest government data released last month points to a second year of increases in 2022 after years of declines.

House prices in the top 10 rural counties that have seen the biggest population increases have surged more than 40 percent over the past three years.

The number of people living in non-metro areas outgrew the urban population for the first time in three decades in 2021, and the rural population rose again last year.

Rents have also surged. In the past two years, several rural areas have seen rent increases between 13 percent and 24 percent, Zillow data showed.

— Bloomberg News

ALSO IN BUSINESS

Qualcomm on Monday said it had signed a new deal with Apple to supply 5G chips to the iPhone maker until at least 2026. Qualcomm, the leading designer of what are known as modem chips, which connect phones to mobile data networks, signed a supply deal with Apple in 2019 after the two companies settled a legal battle. That chip supply deal ends this year, meaning the iPhones that Apple is expected to announce Tuesday would be the last phone debut under that deal. Under the agreement announced Monday, Qualcomm said it will supply Apple with chips for phones that will come out each year until 2026.

A federal judge has ruled that the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau does not have broad authority to tackle discriminatory banking practices, handing a win to financial industry groups that sued the regulator. The American Bankers Association, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other industry groups had argued that Congress had not authorized the agency to root out discrimination in a lawsuit filed in federal court in Texas last September. U.S. District Judge J. Campbell Barker ruled in favor of the groups on Friday. The challenge followed the bureau's announcement in March 2022 that it would examine consumer financial institutions' practices for illegal discrimination.

— From wire reports

Here's how a UAW strike could affect car prices

BY JEANNE WHALEN



REBECCA COOK/REUTERS

United Auto Workers President Shawn Fain greets workers in July at the Stellantis plant in Sterling Heights, Mich. UAW workers at the Big Three automakers could go on strike if a contract deal isn't reached by Thursday.

Detroit's big automakers are running out of time to avert a strike as tense contract talks with the United Auto Workers approach a critical deadline.

If there is no deal, as many as 150,000 UAW workers could go on strike against three automakers — Ford, General Motors and Stellantis, the parent company of Jeep and Chrysler — just after midnight on Friday.

It has the potential to be the second-largest work stoppage in 25 years, topped only by the SAG-AFTRA actors strike, which began last month. There are still many unknowns about how a strike would unfold and whether all 150,000 workers would walk off the job at once. But here is what we know at this point.

Why are the United Auto Workers threatening to strike?

The union and its 150,000 autoworkers are fighting for big pay and compensation improvements at the Big Three automakers. Under new UAW President Shawn Fain, the union is demanding a 40 percent wage increase over four years, shorter working hours and the restoration of many benefits that workers lost during contract negotiations around the time of the Great Recession in 2008. They say workers' wages haven't kept up with inflation, and they point to high executive pay and strong company profits as reasons they are due a big raise. Wages for full-timers at the Big Three currently range from roughly $18 an hour to $32 an hour, depending on seniority, according to the union. Starting wages are about $10 lower than what they would be had they kept up with inflation since 2007, the UAW says.

Autoworkers also say they are burned out from working mandatory overtime that for many can mean 50- or 60-hour workweeks. They are demanding to be paid for 40 hours a week but to work only 32 hours. And they want automakers to stop leaving so many workers in temporary status for years at a time, which deprives them of full wages and benefits.

The automakers have offered wage increases ranging from 9 percent to 14.5 percent over the life of a four-year contract but have balked at many of the other demands. The current contract ends Thursday at 11:59 p.m.

What would a strike do to car prices and availability?

Whether a strike will send prices rising depends largely on how long any strike lasts. The longer it lasts, the bigger the impact.

If a strike is short or limited to only certain factories, it isn't likely to raise prices for most vehicles, analysts say. That's partly because there are plenty of non-UAW-produced vehicles on the market, including Teslas, Hondas, Toyotas and other brands. Also, dealers have some inventory stocked up of many UAW-produced models.

But some popular models that are already in relatively short supply, such as GM's Tahoe and Yukon SUVs, will become scarcer if a strike drags on, which could end up costing consumers more if dealers charge more than the sticker price, according to Pat Ryan, chief executive of CoPilot, a car-shopping app that tracks dealers' inventory and pricing. "Selection is going to get worse, prices are going to get higher if there is a strike, but it's going to be focused on the most popular brands and models. It's not going to be everywhere," Ryan said.

Car prices have already soared in recent years beyond the reach of many Americans, due partly to covid-related component shortages that hobbled auto production for weeks at a time.

Ambrose Conroy, an auto expert and founder of Seraph Consulting, said he doesn't expect an immediate price increase. "We've seen big price increases and we have an affordability problem. I don't think a lot of the [manufacturers] have the room to increase more," he said.

How would a strike affect the economy?

The auto industry is vital to U.S. manufacturing, making up about 3 percent of gross domestic product. The UAW's 150,000 automotive members produce nearly half of the light vehicles manufactured in the United States, according to GlobalData.

Any strike, particularly if it drags on, will ripple out to affect suppliers and other businesses in auto-manufacturing communities. As auto factories shut down, they will stop ordering parts. Many auto-parts suppliers are still wounded from long shutdowns during the pandemic and would be clobbered by another disruption, Conroy said. "They have not recovered the capital they need to survive a shutdown … if there is a three-month shutdown, or even a one month, there are suppliers for which that might compromise their financial viability," he said.

Striking workers would stop receiving their regular paychecks and would have to get by on the $500 in strike pay the union would provide them each week. That would force many to cut back on spending, likely hurting restaurants, bars and other local businesses, said Michael Hicks, an economics professor at Ball State University.

Workers at auto dealerships would also suffer, losing commissions on sales of UAW-produced vehicles if they are in short supply, Hicks added.

What do the companies say about the contract negotiations and the possibility of a strike?

The Big Three say they are aiming to negotiate a fair contract with wage increases and benefits that they argue are more generous than most employers offer. So far, the raises the companies are offering range from 9 percent to 14.5 percent over the life of the four-year contract. They also note that their full-time workers receive compensation beyond their hourly wages, including profit-sharing payments and other bonuses. Over the past four years, amid high profits at the Big Three, profit-sharing checks have amounted to tens of thousands of dollars per full-time worker (temporary workers don't get them).

But the companies caution that they can't meet all of the UAW's demands and still remain competitive against non-unionized automakers such as Tesla, which has lower labor costs.

Tesla has several years' head start on making EVs in large quantities and is already producing them profitably, while Ford and GM are still losing money on their EV production as they ramp up, said Dan Levy, an auto analyst at Barclays. Raising their labor costs would further widen their competitive gap with Tesla, he said.

The automakers have also balked at restoring some of the benefits that UAW workers lost around the time of the Great Recession, including defined-benefit pensions and company-financed health care in retirement. Instead of those pensions, workers hired after 2007 get 401(k) retirement accounts with a company contribution equaling 6.4 percent of workers' wages. They also get $1 per hour worked, or roughly $2,000 a year, paid into a 401(k) that they can use to purchase health care in retirement.

How might a strike unfold?

During the last UAW work stoppage in 2019, the union targeted GM only, holding a 40-day strike against the automaker until a new contract deal was reached. The UAW then used that deal to work out similar contracts with Ford and Stellantis. That's how contract bargaining and strikes often work — the union targets one company at a time.

This time, UAW President Shawn Fain has raised the specter of striking simultaneously against all three companies. He has said the UAW will strike against any company that hasn't reached a deal with the union by the time contracts expire at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday.

Analysts are skeptical that the union will walk off the job at every Big Three factory, noting that the UAW's $825 million strike fund would run out in under three months if all 150,000 autoworkers went on strike at once. Instead, some industry experts say that the union could target only the engine plants of the Big Three, which would effectively cripple vehicle production without requiring all workers to strike simultaneously.

That approach wouldn't necessarily allow nonstriking workers to carry on as usual, though. If the automakers don't have engines or other key components to produce vehicles, they could temporarily lay off workers throughout the system or cut their pay, said Levy, the automotive analyst at Barclays.



J.M. Smucker agrees to acquire Twinkie producer for $5.6 billion

Prominent food brands' deal values Hostess at $34.25 per share

BY AARON GREGG



BRENDAN MCDERMID/REUTERS

J.M. Smucker's acquisition caps a remarkable turnaround for Hostess, which filed for bankruptcy in 2004 and 2012 but got a lift during the pandemic due to a growing appetite for its sugary snacks.

J.M. Smucker will acquire Twinkie maker Hostess Brands for $5.6 billion, swallowing up the purveyor of sugary snacks that rebounded during the pandemic after twice pursuing bankruptcy.

The deal announced Monday values Hostess at $34.25 per share, which the company said represented a 54 percent premium over its stock price before news reports of a potential deal. Hostess shareholders will get $30 in cash and 0.03002 shares of J.M. Smucker stock for each share of Hostess stock.

With this acquisition, Smucker enhances its "ability to deliver brands consumers love," J.M. Smucker board chair Mark Smucker said in a news release. It also combines Hostess's "strong convenience store distribution and leading innovation pipeline" with our "strong commercial organization and consistent retail execution across channels to drive continued growth."

Both companies capitalized on Americans' growing appetite for snacks and packaged food during the pandemic, which restricted dining-out options and forced many consumers to make more meals at home. Rivals such as General Mills, Conagra and Kellogg's also saw their snacks, canned goods and frozen foods take off in 2020, when the coronavirus took hold. Heritage brands such as Goldfish, Oreos and Doritos also saw a resurgence as homebound consumers stocked their pantries with treats.

But analysts say the rise of powerhouse weight-loss drugs could present new head winds for such offerings.

Smucker is known for its signature jelly, Jif peanut butter and Carnation milk products. Hostess is best known for such cream-filled lunchbox confections as Ho Hos, Ding Dongs and Twinkies.

The Twinkie has became a cultural touchstone, featuring prominently in popular culture. In a well-known scene from the 1984 classic film "Ghostbusters," one of the protagonists uses a Twinkie to explain an impending ghostly event, then takes a bite. The plot of the 2009 comedy "Zombieland" turns on a man's obsessive quest to find Twinkies in post-apocalyptic America.

But by 2013, Hostess was struggling financially amid declining sales and a bitter labor dispute, according to a 2013 write-up by the Associated Press. Hostess filed for bankruptcy in 2004 and again in 2012, at one point leading customers to hoard its snacks after it halted sales.

The holding company Hostess Brands was established in 2013 when private equity backers led by Leon Black's Apollo Global Management acquired the rights to Twinkies and other Hostess cakes. It went public in 2016 through a special purpose acquisition company, or "reverse merger" deal, that was initially valued at $2.3 billion, according to Reuters.

Hostess and other snack brands got a boost during the pandemic as people increasingly relied on packaged goods. "Consumers are home more, they snacking more, they're back on the go," chief executive Andy Callahan told Yahoo Finance in May 2022, shortly after the company logged a 25 percent revenue increase while hiking snack prices.

Its revenue and profit held up in the most recent quarter but didn't produce the sort of dazzling results that wowed investors in 2020 and 2021. In financial statements reported Aug. 8, it logged $352.4 million in net revenue for the second quarter, reflecting a 3.5 percent increase from the previous year. Its guidance factors in net revenue growth of 4 to 6 percent for the year.

Numerous food companies have consolidated in the first half of the year. Last month, Campbell Soup struck a $2.7 billion deal for Rao's sauce maker Sovos Brands, and Unilever bought frozen yogurt maker Yasso. Mars, best known for its candy, added the nutrition-focused meal company Kevin's Natural Foods to a portfolio that also includes pet-care products.

Analysts believe the industry could face new pressure due to the rise of new weight-loss drugs that reduce appetite and caloric intake. Morgan Stanley investment bank suggested there could be broad-based reductions in calorie intake of up to 3 percent for certain snacks as a result, suggesting food companies with "better-for-you" food options will be best positioned for growth.

Hostess shares soared 19 percent Monday, while J.M. Smucker slid 7 percent.

DOJ drops case against Michael Flynn's partner

Judge had tossed Bijan Rafiekian's conviction for illegal lobbying

BY RACHEL WEINER

The Justice Department will no longer pursue the criminal case against Bijan Rafiekian, who was accused of illegally lobbying for Turkey when he worked with former Trump administration official Michael Flynn.

The decision, revealed in a court filing Monday asking for the charges to be dismissed with prejudice, ends a years-long battle over work Flynn's consulting firm did in advance of the 2016 election. Prosecutors had argued that Rafiekian, Flynn and the firm covertly lobbied the U.S. government to expel a dissident Turkish cleric without registering as foreign agents. They alleged the firm used a businessman as a go-between for its actual client, the Turkish government.

"The United States believes it is not in the public interest to pursue the case against defendant Bijan Rafiekian further," Assistant U.S. Attorney John Gibbs wrote in the filing.

Flynn was supposed to be the star witness at Rafiekian's 2019 trial, having made a deal with federal prosecutors in which he admitted lying about both the Turkey work and his contact with Russian officials. But days before trial, Flynn hired conservative attorney Sidney Powell and told prosecutors he never actually lied. Without his testimony, a jury still voted to convict Rafiekian, but Judge Anthony J. Trenga threw out that verdict on the grounds that the evidence was too thin.

"The strongest inference to be drawn from the evidence as a whole is that to the extent Turkey had recruited anyone as its agent, it was not Rafiekian, but Flynn because of his stature and his connections to then Presidential candidate Donald Trump," Trenga wrote in a ruling explaining his reasoning. Some of that evidence remains classified.

Rafiekian maintained that he believed the businessman was a genuine client of the firm, and that he was following legal advice in not registering as a foreign agent. The evidence of Turkey's involvement included odd payments from Flynn's firm to the businessman, a meeting with Turkish officials in New York and initial discussion of getting Turkish government backing.

The campaign culminated in an op-ed under Flynn's name published in the Hill the day of the 2016 election, titled "Our ally Turkey is in crisis and needs our support."

Prosecutors appealed after Trenga tossed the case, and it went back and forth twice to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, which sided first with the government and then with Rafiekian, ruling that he deserved a new trial.

In the meantime, Flynn moved to withdraw his guilty plea; during litigation over that, he was pardoned by Trump. Powell, his attorney, was at the time publicly and privately advancing false claims that the 2020 election was stolen. She faces multiple defamation lawsuits and criminal prosecution in Georgia.

"This case should never have been indicted," Rafiekian's attorney Mark MacDougall said in a statement. "Mr. Rafiekian has been the target of baseless federal prosecution for the past five years, only because he made the poor decision to be in business with Michael Flynn."

A spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of Virginia had no comment.

Prosecutors' abandonment of the Rafiekian case is one of several high-profile failures in a recent Justice Department push to crack down on foreign influence campaigns. A former Barack Obama aide was acquitted at trial of lying about work for Ukraine. So was a Trump ally accused of pushing propaganda for the United Arab Emirates. The Justice Department decided not to pursue a case against former Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani over his Ukraine-related dealings.



The Washington Post | LIVE

Maternal Health

Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 7:15 p.m.

Hernandez and Wilcox discuss the structural inequities that contribute to high maternal mortality rates and innovations aimed at curbing complications during childbirth.



NATALIE HERNANDEZ
Executive Director, Center for Maternal Health Equity, Morehouse School of Medicine



WENDY WILCOX
Chief Women's Health Officer, NYC Health + Hospitals

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Head of Ultrasound, North America, Philips

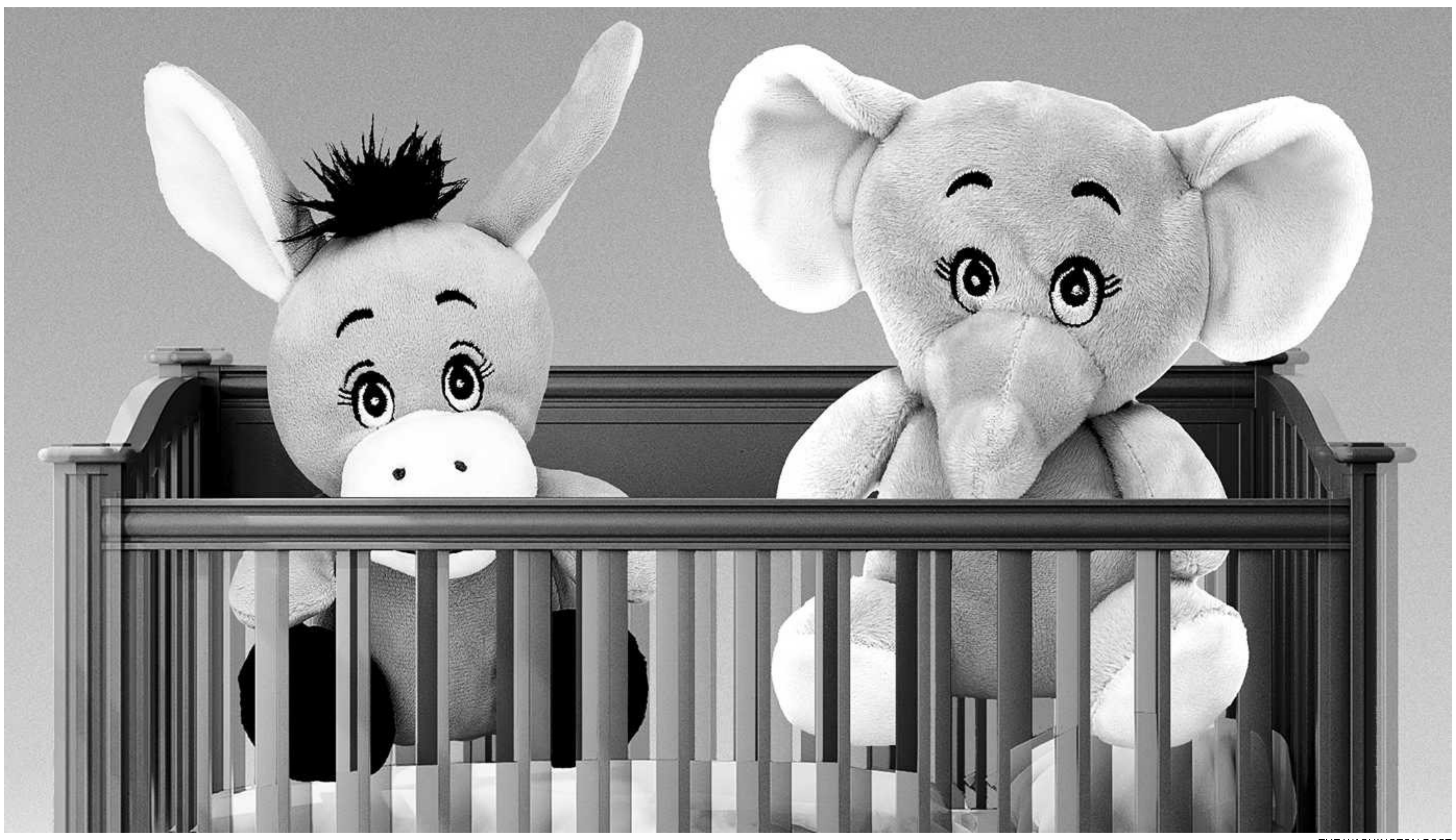
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TUESDAY OPINION



THE WASHINGTON POST

MARC A. THIESSEN AND ALYSSA ROSENBERG

We disagree on abortion. Here's a pro-family agenda both parties can support.

We hail from opposite ends of the political spectrum. One of us is a pro-choice liberal who believes pregnancy and parenting are so momentous that no one should be forced to take them on. The other is a pro-life conservative who believes unborn life is sacred and that the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* was a godsend.

But we agree that the high court's ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* guarantees more babies will be born, many of them in challenging circumstances. And we are united in our belief that Republicans and Democrats must come together to better support these children and their families.

This is especially important at a time when inflation has driven up the cost of everything from diapers to baby formula. Child-care costs are rising at nearly twice the rate of inflation, and thousands of child-care facilities across the country permanently shuttered during the coronavirus pandemic, making it harder and more expensive for parents to get by.

Easing these burdens should be a moral imperative across the political spectrum. For pro-choice Americans, it's the least the country can do for women who are seeing choices stripped from them and their children. For pro-life Americans, it represents a chance to build what Pope John Paul II called a "culture of life" in which the dignity of every person is upheld and supported at all stages.

For both parties, a comprehensive family agenda should be a political imperative as well. As a candidate, Joe Biden promised to put his "whole soul" into bringing both parties together to do important things for the American people. By restoring divided government in 2022, midterm voters sent a clear message that they want both sides to fulfill that promise.

Family policy is a place to start, especially because Democrats and Republicans have already cooperated on a wide range of bills to tackle many of these problems. Despite the bipartisan goodwill, little family legislation has been enacted. It's time for President Biden and congressional leaders to make this a priority.

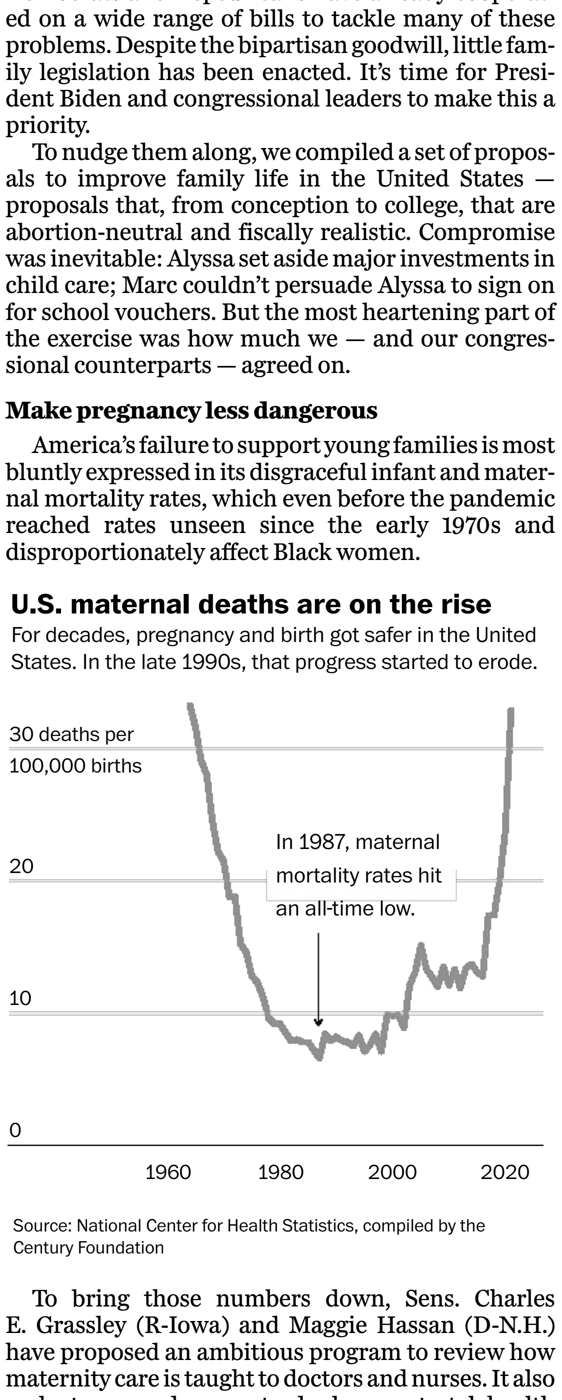
To nudge them along, we compiled a set of proposals to improve family life in the United States — proposals that, from conception to college, that are abortion-neutral and fiscally realistic. Compromise was inevitable: Alyssa set aside major investments in child care; Marc couldn't persuade Alyssa to sign on for school vouchers. But the most heartening part of the exercise was how much we — and our congressional counterparts — agreed on.

Make pregnancy less dangerous

America's failure to support young families is most bluntly expressed in its disgraceful infant and maternal mortality rates, which even before the pandemic reached rates unseen since the early 1970s and disproportionately affect Black women.

U.S. maternal deaths are on the rise

For decades, pregnancy and birth got safer in the United States. In the late 1990s, that progress started to erode.



Source: National Center for Health Statistics, compiled by the Century Foundation

To bring those numbers down, Sens. Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa) and Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.) have proposed an ambitious program to review how maternity care is taught to doctors and nurses. It also seeks to expand access to doula care, to telehealth maternal care and to devices such as glucose monitors for women with gestational diabetes who are on Medicaid. This is a great place to start.

The federal government can also use its convening and data-gathering power to learn more about how to keep moms and babies healthy. Sens. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), for example, introduced a bill to establish a national Maternal Health Research Network within the National Institutes of Health. Sen. Tina Smith (D-Minn.) introduced the Data to Save Moms Act, pulling together more information on maternal deaths up to a year after birth.

Given the firepower to gather these statistics and analyze them, the federal government might facilitate greater understanding of tragic conditions such as postpartum psychosis.

What happens outside the doctor's office matters, too. To get care to moms who need it, the Senate should pass and Biden should sign the bipartisan bill, co-sponsored by Reps. Brad Wenstrup (R-Ohio) and Danny K. Davis (D-Ill.), that the House passed with a huge 390-26 margin last year, to expand the federal home health aide visiting program for poor pregnant women and new moms and babies.

Lawmakers should also back the proposal from former Nebraska representative Jeff Fortenberry (R) to set up a federal-state collaborative aimed at identifying ways to help those pregnant get housing, stay in the workforce or school, and reduce Medicaid costs. Same goes for the bill introduced by Rep. Carol Miller (R-W.Va.) and Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) to set up programs at the Department of Health and Human Services to determine which mentoring and support programs for new mothers produce the best results.

> *Child-care costs are rising at nearly twice the rate of inflation. Easing these burdens should be a moral imperative across the political spectrum.*

In terms of protecting expectant mothers, the bipartisan Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, which passed as part of last year's appropriations bill and requires employers to accommodate workers' needs while they're pregnant or after birth, is an excellent start. To protect the rights of pregnant college and university students and their babies, Congress should also pass Rubio's bill requiring colleges to let students know about on-campus resources should they decide to have children while enrolled in school and to document and address complaints that schools discriminate against pregnant students in violation of Title IX.

Help parents afford babies

Everyone knows that once babies arrive, they are expensive. Here are several ways lawmakers could ease that burden.

First, given the benefits that accrue to kids whose parents are married, it's obvious marriage penalties should be eliminated from federal welfare programs. Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah) has proposed legislation to do so.

We also support increasing the maximum child tax credit. Start with Sen. Mitt Romney's bill, which would raise the credit from $2,000 per child to $4,200 for children younger than 6 and $3,000 for those ages 6 to 17. The Utah Republican has also introduced legislation to allow women to start claiming the child tax credit during pregnancy.

To enable bipartisan support, Romney's legislation should be amended to state that nothing in it intends to affirm or deny the humanity of the unborn fetus.

Then there's the matter of extending Medicaid coverage for mothers and babies until a year after birth. Many Republicans and Democrats have recognized the wisdom of this idea at the state level. For example, in signing a law to do so this spring, Mississippi Republican Gov. Tate Reeves described the step as part of a "new pro-life agenda."

It's time to adopt it federally, too. Both parties should also embrace Rubio's proposal to expand the eligibility of new mothers for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children from one to two years.

To further reduce costs of parenting, the government could exempt diapers from sales taxes, as House Democrats and Indiana Republicans have sought to do. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) has gone so far as to make *all* baby items — cribs, strollers, clothing, diapers, wipes — tax-free. Other states should follow suit.

Those savings wouldn't be enormous, but parents would certainly welcome them in a time of high inflation. Indiana's law saves parents $66 per child per year on diapers. Florida's law shaves $17 off the price of a modest Ikea crib. Congress could even consider making these items tax-deductible.

Finally, in the post-*Dobbs* world, we will need more loving families to open their homes to adoptive and foster children. One way to do so is by passing legislation expanding the adoption tax credit and making it fully refundable, a change to tax law that has been a bipartisan priority for a decade and was most recently reintroduced by Davis alongside Reps. Blake D. Moore (R-Utah), Gwen Moore (D-Wis.), Randy Feenstra (R-Iowa), Don Bacon (R-Neb.) and Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Calif.). We should also increase federal adoption assistance funding and funding for states to recruit, retain and support foster families.

And we should make sure Americans know what resources and protections are available to them. Rep. Nancy Mace (R-S.C.) and Rubio have advocated a federal database of pregnancy-related resources. That's a good idea (even if a URL other than their proposed "Life.gov" would make more sense politically and boost search results). The site could increase awareness of the new Pregnant Workers Fairness Act and Pump Act, which expand protections for pregnant and breastfeeding women. Fortenberry's Care for Her Act would be a boon to pregnant students, helping them with family-friendly campus housing, on-campus child care and space for breastfeeding in classroom buildings.

Support child-care needs

One of the toughest policy questions to crack has been that of paid parental leave. Neither Democratic proposals for a national paid leave program nor Republican suggestions that parents fund their leave through Social Security savings are viable in this closely divided Congress. As an alternative to this stalemate, we'd like to see lawmakers enact a universal tax-exempt parental leave and family savings account to cover parenting-related expenses, including parental leave and children's sick days off from school.

Those accounts should be portable from job to job. As with 401(k) accounts, companies could deduct their matching contributions to employees' family savings accounts from their corporate taxes. Those savings could grow until parents need them, at which point they could be spent tax-free. Any unused funds could be rolled into other savings vehicles, such as 529 education accounts. In 2019, then-Reps. John Katko (R-N.Y.) and Anthony Brindisi (D-N.Y.) introduced the Working Parents Flexibility Act, which would have allowed individuals to put away up to $6,750 per year in such accounts, but the bill was never enacted.

Such a program could break the ideological deadlock over paid leave. It would also give parents maximal flexibility while providing government and businesses a way to invest in family life together.

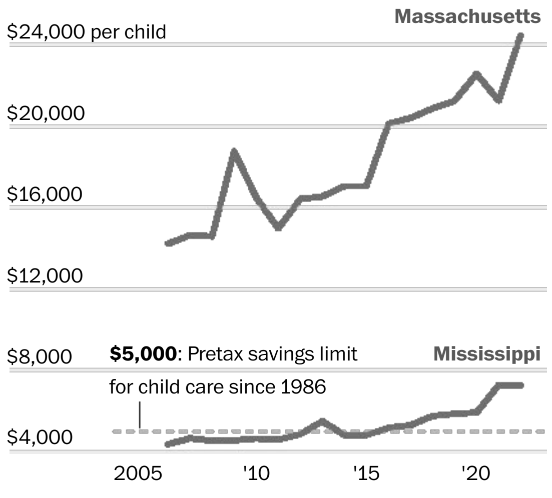
And while we're considering family leave, the proposal from Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act to give both moms and dads time to recover from and grieve a stillbirth or miscarriage would be a sensitive gesture.

Then there's the cost and availability of child care. One no-brainer: Raise the amount parents can save pretax in dependent care flexible spending accounts from $5,000 to $10,500, as Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-Pa.) and Kim Schrier (D-Wash.) have proposed. The limit hasn't been updated since 1986 and bears no relation to the actual cost of child care.

Meanwhile, let parents who hire caregivers write off the cost of workers' compensation insurance and fees for payroll services such as Care.com. Making it easier to pay these workers fairly — and legally — would be good for everyone.

The pretax savings limit hasn't risen along with the cost of child care

Yearly average cost of center-based infant care



In 2022, Massachusetts was the most expensive state on average; Mississippi was the cheapest.

Source: Child Care Aware of America

Republicans will be averse to major universal child-care programs, but they should consider then-Rep. Louie Gohmert's bill to help the most vulnerable young mothers. The Texas Republican proposed creating a block-grant program to pay for child care for teen parents so they can stay in school or work. Congress should also add flexibility to existing federal block-grant programs for child care so that states can find innovative ways to support new parents. For example, Indiana's Hoosier Families First Fund provides $45 million to bolster agencies that support healthy pregnancies, child care, foster and adoptive care, and other programs.

All this expanded child care will require more child-care workers. Immigration reforms could help. Expanding the H2B visa category, or even creating a new visa category altogether, could help bring day-care workers into the country. And raising the limit on the number of au pairs who are allowed to work in the United States could expand access to a new, lower-cost option for families willing to open their homes and facilitate cultural exchange. (Full disclosure: Alyssa's father-in-law chairs the American Institute for Foreign Study, which operates Au Pair in America.)

Once children are a little older, it's worth experimenting with care models that work for their families. Sens. Todd C. Young (R-Ind.) and Hassan had a bright idea to add an innovation fund to the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act. That effort would explore the effects of offering child care at nontraditional hours, which would be a huge boon to parents who are shift workers in fields such as law enforcement. Wenstrup's proposal to expand tax credits for businesses to build on-site day-care centers and study the effects of expanding employer-operated child care could spur other creative solutions.

Changing the school day and year could also make life easier for working parents — and help address pandemic learning loss, too. Rep. Joseph Morelle (D-N.Y.) proposed piloting 8 a.m.-to-6 p.m. school days in 500 elementary schools, providing children with extra instructional time and freeing parents from the struggle to find after-school care.

Similar experiments could examine the effect of year-round school, expanding on the pilot program in Florida proposed by a Democrat and signed into law by DeSantis, or the universal camp-like summer programs for students in Birmingham, Ala.

Our list is not comprehensive, and there are many ideas that we didn't include because they wouldn't stand a chance of passing bipartisan muster.

In any case, nothing in these proposals requires either side to concede its position on the underlying question of abortion. This shows that our fundamental disagreement on one of the most vexing moral questions of our time should not prevent people of goodwill from working together on something most Americans agree on: supporting families.

If two Post columnists who agree on little else can do it, then Democrats and Republicans in Congress can as well. Because whether we are pro-life or pro-choice, we can — and must — be pro-family.

The Washington Post
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITORIALS



EDMUND D. FOUNTAIN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Ella Bebwell, 9, during class at Columbia Elementary School in Mississippi in 2020.

How Mississippi pulled off an education 'miracle'

Holding some students back isn't the only explanation for the surge in achievement.

THE SO-CALLED Mississippi miracle in education really isn't one. The state's surge in student achievement results not from divine intervention but from careful policy applied by committed human beings. One of these policies has received extra attention: the decision to hold back third-graders who don't meet state reading standards. But by focusing too much on this rule alone, reformers risk missing what makes the broader program successful.

Local officials all over the country are attempting to unspool the story of Mississippi's journey from worst in the nation in test scores to the middle of the pack. Schools everywhere are struggling to catch up students after learning loss from the pandemic. Most states have been unable to match pre-2020 levels of achievement. Mississippi, however, set a personal record in reading this year, and its gains on the National Assessment of Educational Progress exceed every one of its peers'.

Much has been made of Mississippi's stringent rule preventing third-grade students from moving to fourth if they aren't reading proficiently. The state is far from alone in enforcing such a standard; more than a dozen others require retention, and more still allow for it at schools' and parents' discretion. But the policy is controversial. There is social and emotional impact when children's friends leave them behind. The science is clear that, for retention policies applied in later grades, those costs outweigh the benefits — prompting increased chronic absenteeism and dropout rates that negate gains from additional instructional time. Yet for younger students, the picture is blurrier.

Older studies, covering mostly the 1990s, caution against retaining students at any age. Yet recent analyses are more sanguine. Evidence suggests that students in middle or high school who are held back tend to be less engaged, but it also finds that retaining elementary school students can lead to more positive outcomes. A review this year, focused on early literacy policies during the 2010s, discovered that states whose strategies included retention boasted greater progress in test scores. And an analysis homing in on the inaugural group of Mississippians subject to the state's rule concluded that repeating third grade resulted in significantly higher reading scores in sixth grade — with Black and Hispanic students showing particular improvement.

All this news is encouraging — except for one big problem. It is impossible to disentangle retention itself from all that comes with it. There's lots else that held-back students get in states that have revamped their approach to literacy: after-class tutoring, for example, or specialized instruction during the school day, or other types of help that another year of school, a perfect mirror of the year before it, wouldn't provide on its own.

There's something more. Retention isn't popular with parents. It's expensive, too. As a result, schools generally don't *want* students to repeat a year. Sometimes, the response is to grant exemptions, some (whether a student speaks English as a second language, has a disability or is a second-time repeater) more thoughtful than others (whether a family makes a fuss). Better, though, is for schools to react by preventing students from missing cutoffs in the first place: committing to early detection of students' struggles as well as early attempts to address them. Mississippi, for instance, has brought roughly 75 percent of students to pass the initial administration of its assessment — and closer to 85 percent to pass the retest.

The upshot is that retention policies might raise districts' average scores because of gains by not only students who are retained but also students who aren't. Yet it's vital to recognize that none of this improvement, by retained students or students allowed to continue to the next grade, occurs thanks to retention alone.

In Mississippi, literacy coaches have been painstakingly selected, trained and monitored by the state and dispatched to perform one job: supporting teachers as they learn, and learn to teach, the science of reading. Teacher preparation programs have evolved to encompass these methods. The curricular materials recommended by the state match up, too. When kids fall behind, they're identified and they're given aid.

Retention done right might be part of the comprehensive strategy needed to catch up kids after school shutdowns from covid-19. More time will yield more answers, as students subject to this decade's policies move into high school and beyond. Yet retention done absent such a strategy is retention done wrong — and it might hurt more than it helps. That's why obsessing over retention as some sort of magic solution to learning loss is the wrong approach; silver bullets are no more possible than miracles. Treating retention like one could usher in its drawbacks without ensuring any of its advantages.

X shouldn't do Saudi Arabia's dirty work

Mr. Musk has a chance to improve on his predecessors' privacy policy.

SAUDI ARABIA this summer sentenced a man to death based solely on his social media activity — including his tweets and retweets on Twitter, now known as X. Muhammad al-Ghamdi, a retired schoolteacher, had only 10 followers, but the regime used his harmless posts as evidence against him. Worse, there's reason to worry that the platform has made the job of repression even easier.

A separate U.S. civil lawsuit accuses the platform, at the time led by Jack Dorsey, of enabling Saudi Arabia's human rights abuses against its users. The case comes from the sister of a former aid worker, Abdulrahman al-Sadhan, whose anonymous parody account on the platform mocking the country's government earned him 20 years in prison. But it connects his fate to a pattern of behavior that includes the kingdom's installation of operatives into Twitter's ranks to funnel to authorities private information on dissidents. Twitter, the lawsuit alleges, ignored "red flags" related to the insider threat — and even neglected to prevent one of the accused spies from accessing confidential data after receiving a complaint from a target of the spying.

The matter of precisely what Twitter knew and when it knew it will probably be resolved in court. But one data point from the lawsuit is immediately alarming: Twitter reportedly disclosed privileged user information at Saudi Arabia's bidding at a significantly higher rate than it accedes to demands from the United States, Britain or Canada. Many of these subpoenas came in the form of so-called emergency data requests — a mechanism hackers have lately gotten into the habit of abusing to vacuum up data from technology companies outside of their usual review processes. Apparently, these requests were often approved within hours.

Why did Twitter treat Saudi Arabia so generously? The answer, critics charge, is money. One of the largest investors in the company is Alwaleed bin Talal, one of the kingdom's many princes, whose $2 billion stake was purchased through Saudi Arabia's Kingdom Holding Co. Of course, it's also possible that the answer is mere negligence. But for all the dysfunction of Twitter in the Dorsey days, at least back then the site *had* rules for it to fail to follow. All evidence suggests that X in the Elon Musk days is run mostly by its owner's whim. And the renovated firm appears, unlike its former incarnation, to be accepting most every request from most every country to turn over user data.

Mr. Musk cited his commitment to free speech as the primary motivation behind his purchase of Twitter. He has an opportunity now to resurrect his predecessors' policy regarding protecting users against government overreach — as well as a chance to improve on their practice.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@washpost.com

A wake-up call for Arlington

Regarding Theresa Vargas's Sept. 7 Metro column, "Behind homeless woman's death in jail, an unseen crisis":

A 73-year-old unhoused woman spent the final two weeks of her life in the Arlington County jail. How could this have happened? Was anyone at the county's homelessness programs even consulted before Abonesh Woldegeorges was booked?

Arlington has five shelters, although it doesn't have nearly enough low-income or permanent supportive housing. Why is our county not providing sufficient funding and resources to address this crisis in our community? Sadly, Ms. Woldegeorges's death came shortly after the county launched the Mobile Outreach Support Team, which aims to provide alternatives to incarceration for people with a mental illness and helps with homeless outreach. Hopefully, Ms. Woldegeorges's tragic death will be a wake-up call for how to help other people whose only crime is having a mental illness or being unhoused.

Jo Ann Tooley, *Arlington*

Amtrak is ignoring Ivy City

Regarding the Sept. 8 Metro article "Amtrak rail yards to get $1B overhaul":

Increased investment in rail transportation in the Washington region is a welcome development. The article described a $350 million upgrade to the Ivy City rail yard, which services Acela, Northeast Regional, MARC and VRE trains. Missing from the article, however, was any discussion of replacement of the diesel-powered switcher engines used at the rail yard.

The switcher engines, critical to the operation of Union Station, are outdated and emit twice the harmful emissions of the combined operations of Amtrak, MARC and VRE at Union Station. Most of the nine switcher engines are old. (Five of them are 1950s models.)

Because of the challenges in starting the diesel engines and the need for warm-up before use, the switchers are started in the morning and idle all day. This critical environmental issue affecting Ivy City, Trinidad and Gallaudet residents cannot be ignored.

In July, the Committee of 100 released an extensive critique of the plans for redevelopment of Union Station. Though we strongly supported the proposal to improve rail infrastructure at the station, we pointed out deficiencies with the proposal's environmental assessments. The impact of the diesel switcher engines was not included in the Federal Railroad Administration's environmental assessment because the FRA wrongly defined the project area to exclude the Ivy City rail yard. This deficiency needs to be addressed.

Shelly Repp, *Washington*
The writer is chair of the Committee of 100 on the Federal City.

Battling for religious freedom

In her Sept. 4 op-ed, "Southwest Airlines lawyers need reeducation," Ruth Marcus took federal Judge Brantley Starr to task for requiring attorneys for Southwest Airlines to undergo "religious liberty" training after the airline fired a conservative flight attendant for sending nasty antiabortion messages to a pro-choice flight attendant. This training is to be administered by the Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative religious organization.

The term "religious liberty" has become the mantra of religious conservatives. Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. said in a speech to the Federalist Society two years ago, "It pains me to say this, but in certain quarters, religious liberty is fast becoming a disfavored right."

No, it has become a dog whistle for religionists who want to impose certain limits on freedom from religion: making abortion a crime, denying aid to the LGBTQ+ community, halting insurance coverage for contraceptives and stopping over-the-counter sales of "morning after" pills, among other things.

In 1993, President Bill Clinton signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act into law. Although elements of it were later found unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, 23 states have passed their own "Religious Freedom Restoration Acts."

The Founding Fathers had grave concerns over the interference of religion in government. Their fears were well-founded considering the ongoing erosion of the First Amendment.

Otts Laupus, *Elkridge*

Ads could be driving costs up

Regarding the Sept. 6 front-page article "Insurance costs crash down on drivers":

Aside from new cars costing more to repair or an increase in natural disasters, is it possible (I'm taking a wild guess here) that insurance costs are so high because, just maybe, there are too darned many insurance ads on television?

It seems there's an ad for Geico, Farmers or Liberty Mutual during every commercial break. This has been going on for *years*.

When you consider how many cities there are in the United States, with each having a number of TV stations, and each of those stations running auto insurance commercials *all day long*, it's easy to figure out that the companies are spending millions of dollars on their ads annually. I don't have to tell you from where that money has to come.

So nobody should be surprised to see their auto insurance rates climbing.

Ric Rodriguez, *Springfield*

Pound-foolish in Seychelles

As a young Foreign Service officer, I opened Embassy Victoria in the Seychelles two weeks before its independence from the United Kingdom in 1976 and served as chargé there for the next two years. It was a great tour despite the isolation.

Back then, the resident diplomatic corps included only staffers from the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. The United States had a staff of three. The other nations had senior ambassadors heading large missions. (The Soviets and Chinese each had more than 60 personnel.)

For the United States, the Seychelles' geostrategic location included port visits by Bahrain-based warships, refueling for U.S. Navy anti-submarine aircraft, a reliably pro-Western government and one of the most important satellite tracking stations in the world. Though the rent we paid for the tracking station was an important component of the Seychelles' budget, our aid package was minuscule, unlike those of the other four missions.

Already at that time, the Chinese were furnishing significant assistance. What was truly amazing in the Sept. 8 front-page article "In Indian Ocean, a strategic return" was how big the Chinese footprint is now. Its projects are having a tremendous impact on the poorest citizens.

Embassy Victoria should not have been closed. The State Department should have gone to Congress to ask for more funding. Penny-wise and pound-foolish. No other country left.

As the article noted, the United States was and is looked upon favorably. That is mostly, in my opinion, a vestige of the goodwill engendered by the tracking station and the many, many marriages of station personnel with Seychellois over several decades.

Greg Mattson, *Bethesda*

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The G-20 ought to abolish itself

BY JOHN R. BOLTON

The annual Group of 20 festivities, this year in India, are now concluded. It is appropriate to ask exactly what these gatherings accomplish. For the process-obsessed, every international meeting among heads of state or diplomats is positive, regardless of whether anything concrete is achieved. The G-20 exemplifies this misconception. Mountains of final communiqués, joint statements and outcome documents have contributed to global deforestation but little else.

Moreover, leaders' summits are preceded by endless cabinet-level meetings: foreign ministers, treasury ministers and environmental ministers, all producing rivers of deathless prose. Who remembers, though, the ringing declarations of last year's G-20 gathering in Bali, much less those of previous years?

Consider what gave real impetus to the annual G-20 process, the 2008 financial crisis. In November 2009, with his history a little shaky, incoming European Council President Herman Van Rompuy (a former Belgian prime minister) proclaimed 2009 to be "the first year of global governance, with the establishment of the G-20 in the middle of the financial crisis. The climate conference in Copenhagen is another step toward the global management of our planet." One can only imagine how many Americans remain unaware of the G-20's role in global governance, much less agree that there should be global governance or a G-20 role in it.

Van Rompuy's job helps explain the global-governance mind-set, which infects the G-20 and other international "institutions." The European Council consists of European Union heads of state or government. Its presidency once rotated every six months among the members, until the Treaty of Lisbon created a 30-month presidential term, renewable once. Van Rompuy was the first president so elected, making him in E.U. eyes equivalent to the president of the United States. Fancy that. No wonder he was qualified to speak of global governance.

Many originally saw the G-20 as a broader alternative to the global West's Group of Seven, comprising the world's largest industrial democracies. The G-7 itself has had its ups and downs. For example, it became a G-8 by adding Russia, but Moscow's inconvenient 2014 Ukraine invasion resulted in its expulsion. It was the G-7's weak response in 2014 and later, reflecting the West's collective failure to punish Russia, that undoubtedly emboldened Moscow to invade Ukraine even further last year. The attack galvanized the G-7, surprisingly, more than anything in several decades.

By contrast even to the G-7 herd of cats, the G-20 has been feckless. Because the group includes Russia and China, its final joint statement in India contained only an anodyne comment on Russia's unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, even weaker than its 2022 statement. Every G-20 member holds veto power over a consensus leaders' statement, so it should be no surprise that nothing much happened this past weekend in New Delhi, as in the United Nations Security Council, where Russia and China also hold veto power.

When asked to justify the G-20, supporters invariably say it provides a useful platform for members to confer bilaterally outside the larger meeting. It is true the G-20 enables this diplomatic version of speed dating, but so do any number of other forums, not least the U.N. General Assembly's opening next week in New York. The real question is whether endless rounds of brief encounters have any measurable utility.

President Biden's Friday meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi derived nothing from being attached to a G-20 gathering. The meeting could have important consequences, as could Biden's announcement of new rail and shipping connections among India, the Middle East and Europe. But it could just as easily have taken place, and perhaps with even greater media coverage, during a stand-alone visit by the U.S. president. Biden's second stop on this trip, Vietnam, was also strategically correct — and was enhanced by his not being surrounded in Hanoi by a small mob of other world leaders.

Many observers correctly noted that the absences in India of Russia's Vladimir Putin and China's Xi Jinping gave Biden a solo opportunity to make America's case on key issues. But there is substantial reason to think China and Russia simply don't value the G-20 as much as other forums. Putin hasn't attended since the 2019 G-20 in Japan (2020 being a virtual summit for all because of the pandemic). Xi skipped 2021 (beaming in only by video) as well as this year. If the G-20 were so important, it is inexplicable that Xi chose not to make even a brief appearance, especially in India, where his absence is being taken as a slap in the face.

It takes nothing away from India, and its extensive preparations for this G-20, to emphasize how evanescent these meetings are. In international affairs, pretending is not a sound basis for policy. Eliminating G-20 meetings would free up the leaders' time to focus on real issues, not diplomatic niceties.

John R. Bolton served as national security adviser under President Donald Trump and is the author of "The Room Where It Happened: A White House Memoir."



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

Alex Murdaugh is led to the Colleton County Courthouse for sentencing on murder charges on March 3.

KATHLEEN PARKER

Don't look now, South Carolina. Alex Murdaugh's back.

As if South Carolina's Lowcountry weren't haunted enough already, Alex Murdaugh seems to have become a poltergeist who, notwithstanding two murder convictions, can't be contained by mere prison walls. He's back.

Just six months after he was convicted of killing his wife and son, allegations of jury tampering in his trial have led his attorneys, Dick Harpootlian and Jim Griffin, to request a new trial.

And in a jaw-dropping development, the person accused of trying to nudge jurors toward a conviction is none other than the affable Colleton County clerk of court, Rebecca "Becky" Hill. If the allegations prove to be true, the Murdaugh verdicts could be tossed out.

The news has rocked the small town of Walterboro, where lawyers, media and spectators camped for the five-week trial earlier this year. Hill, who was Command Central for both jurors and the media, was known to everyone as a pillar of calm during the state's longest, craziest criminal trial. More than a court official, she became a friend to scores of reporters who needed her guidance in finding food and parking spaces. Hill was so well-liked by the media that she sometimes joined them for after-hours social gatherings, including one event reporters organized to celebrate her birthday.

Murdaugh, should your memory need jogging, is the disbarred scion of a legal family who controlled a big hunk of this state — and the people who lived there — for 100 years. Their legacy abruptly ended when he was found guilty of murdering wife Maggie, 52, and son Paul, 22, in 2021. The murders took place on the same day that Murdaugh's law firm had confronted him about missing funds, and about the same time an evidentiary hearing was scheduled about a boating accident in which Paul was the driver and one of his passengers died.

Alex Murdaugh maintained his innocence throughout the trial, claiming he had a severe opioid addiction that was costing him $50,000 a week. What was clear to anyone following the trial was that Murdaugh was in a panic during the days leading up to the murders as all the pieces of his life were cascading at once toward his destruction.

Either way, Walterboro has come alive again. About 100 legal observers and hangers-on regathered as if for a reunion this past week. Several lawyers who had been hired by news outlets to explain the legal maneuverings are also back, queuing up for new clients and fresh opportunities to grab the spotlight or perhaps a role in another documentary or two.

If true, the allegations involving Hill are consequential. According to Harpootlian and Griffin, at least three jurors told them that Hill had instructed them to ignore Murdaugh's testimony. We know separately that Hill was convinced of Murdaugh's guilt, thanks to a book she quickly wrote with help from a professional writer and published in July, titled "Behind the Doors of Justice: The Murdaugh Murders." She also apparently arranged for the dismissal of Juror 758 just hours before the jury began deliberations because she was allegedly worried that the juror would hang the jury. Hill has been seen around town but, so far as anyone knows, isn't talking.

The dismissed juror, by the way, was known as the Egg Juror. Why that name? Because: When she was dismissed by Judge Clifton Newman during the trial, he asked her if she had left anything in the jury room. "A dozen eggs," she replied, which for some reason cracked up the courtroom. When he asked the juror if she wanted those eggs, she said yes. More laughter.

Nothing's funny now. The Egg Juror has lawyered up. Impartiality is crucial to our trial-by-jury system, and any tampering with its integrity can't be treated lightly. If the charges are true, what could Hill have been thinking?

I don't know, of course, but if I had to guess, the answer has something to do with the nature of the place. She was likely just chatting with friends who happened to be jurors or friends of jurors. Naive, I know, but small towns in South Carolina, as in other places, are often composed of families that have known each other for generations. Everybody knows everybody — and everybody knows what everybody is thinking.

At the same time, saying what one is thinking is often unnecessary here. Which is why I thought her book, which I haven't yet read, was a terrible idea. The opinions of clerks of court — even if everyone knows them — are best left unshared.

Could there be a more sinister explanation for the turn of events from this state? Possibly. One thing you learn traipsing around Murdaugh country is that anything can happen. And sometimes, the worst things haven't even happened yet.

JIM GERAGHTY

Most teachers are too busy to be culture warriors

A few days ago, I attended my last back-to-school night at our local public middle school. That real-world experience offered a dramatic contrast to the perpetual online brawling today among irate parents, irate teachers and irate politicians over education.

For several years now, I've marveled about how our middle school manages to find teachers who are relatively young and energetic (at least for one night of meeting parents) and who seem absolutely thrilled to spend their days attempting to get teenagers grappling with the roller coaster of puberty to absorb some knowledge.

Elementary school kids are adorable, and high-schoolers are taking those exciting first steps into adulthood, but a lot of us would prefer to forget that awkward transition of the middle school years. Some of my son's classmates don't look all that different from when they left elementary school, while others have hit monstrous growth spurts and look more like college freshmen. And yet somehow, my child's teachers seem to love teaching kids in this self-conscious, stumbling stage of life.

The school has had its share of problems, of course — an ambitious reconstruction project that has dragged on and on, intermittent discipline issues, and the continuing effort to overcome setbacks from a year of subpar "distance learning" and a few more months of on-and-off in-person learning during the pandemic. Over at the nearby high school, it's hard to tell whether rumors of commonplace drug use are factual or based on teenage exaggeration and insecure boasts of fearless rule-breaking.

At the back-to-school meeting, I wondered to what degree Americans' current heated debates about education are influenced by the actual experiences of students and teachers in classrooms, as opposed to being shaped by bomb-throwing contests elevated by algorithms on social media. You don't have to look hard to find online examples of outrageous behavior (by students or teachers), or stories of strong ideological views being imposed by teachers or administrators, or titanic struggles over which books to include on a library shelf or in a classroom (often with both sides using wild misrepresentations).

Sure, you can find teachers making disturbing boasts about proselytizing their personal views to children, but your child's teacher is unlikely to be one of them.

Sure, you can find teachers making disturbing boasts about proselytizing their personal views to children, as tracked by Libs of TikTok, but your child's teacher is unlikely to be one of them. No, your child's teacher is probably dealing with matters that are much more mundane but still thorny and persistent. These students aren't just trying to make up for learning loss from the pandemic; they're also trying to make up for one to two years' worth of missing socialization and maturity.

A therapist who works with children told me that many she sees are about two years behind in social development — high school seniors acting like sophomores, younger high-schoolers acting like middle-schoolers, etc. Sometimes this manifests as just misbehaving in class, but sometimes it manifests as fistfights.

After the hard lessons of online learning during the pandemic, lots of schools are trying to figure out how to integrate technology without having students staring at their screens all day. Countless teachers and administrators across the country are also no doubt trying to preserve school safety with reasonable and effective discipline policies, while also trying to ensure that students are challenged to perform to the best of their abilities.

Little of that is likely to be the subject of exciting cable news segments or viral social media posts.

On balance, it is a good thing that, during and after the pandemic, many parents became much more attuned to what their schools were teaching and became much more engaged — even if that meant some shouting at previously staid school board meetings. Parents who show up to complain about the curriculum are parents who care a great deal about their children's education — better that than apathetic or disengaged parents who just assume everything is going fine.

But as we have these arguments, let's not let a media ecosystem that is designed to spotlight the atypical and strange create an impression that public education is being hijacked by lunatics and extremists. There are a whole lot of teachers out there who are too busy grading papers, revising lesson plans and, in many cases, buying some class materials with their own money. They don't have the time or inclination to fight in the culture war.

EUGENE ROBINSON

Elon Musk shouldn't get to decide how Ukraine fights

I can't feel sympathy for Elon Musk, given the cesspool of antisemitism, hate speech and authoritarian bombast he is creating at X, the social media platform formerly known as Twitter. But if he prevented Ukrainian forces from attacking Russia's Black Sea fleet — well, that's really on us, not on him.

Musk has acknowledged that he refused a request from the Ukrainian military last September to activate the Starlink satellite communications network, operated by the Musk-founded SpaceX, over Russian-occupied Crimea. Turning the network on would have allowed explosives-laden Ukrainian submarine drones to be guided toward Russia's big naval base at Sevastopol and detonated. According to the new book "Elon Musk," by biographer Walter Isaacson, the drones "lost connectivity and washed ashore harmlessly."



REUTERS

Elon Musk

The Ukrainians' "obvious intent" was "to sink most of the Russian fleet at anchor," Musk posted last week on X. "If I had agreed to their request, then SpaceX would be explicitly complicit in a major act of war and conflict escalation." He has repeatedly fretted that the war in Ukraine could mushroom into World War III.

I think Musk's analysis is wrong; others might think he is right. But we all should agree that an impulsive billionaire, unsure of whether he wants to be a superhero or a Bond villain, should not have been in a position to make that call. No private citizen should be making such unilateral decisions about our national security.

Musk was the decider because his constellation of more than 4,500 low-Earth-orbit Starlink satellites has been vital to Ukraine's armed forces, providing internet service that the Russian military, despite its best efforts, has been unable to jam.

At the outset of the war, when it became clear how vital Starlink was to the Ukrainian war effort, Musk donated thousands of portable terminals — along with Tesla batteries to power them in areas where electricity had been cut off. He was, in a very real sense, a savior for Ukraine's freedom fighters. But without telling Ukrainian authorities, he disabled the service over Crimea — which Russia had invaded and "annexed" in 2014 — fearing that Russian President Vladimir Putin would see attacks there as attacks on the motherland and possibly respond with nuclear weapons.

When Ukraine launched its submarine drone assault and found there was no Starlink service, officials begged Musk to turn on the system. He declined. He also resisted allowing Starlink to be used in other Russian-controlled areas that Ukrainian soldiers were bravely fighting to recapture.

As portrayed by Isaacson, Musk consistently overestimates Russia's military prowess and Putin's willingness to escalate his war of conquest into an Armageddon. But whether Musk's geopolitical vision is blurry or crystal clear, he should not have had to make these decisions.

Isaacson quotes Musk as complaining, "How am I in this war? . . . Starlink was not meant to be involved in wars. It was so people can watch Netflix and chill and get online for school and do good peaceful things, not drone strikes."

I have a better question: What is the Pentagon doing with the more than $800 billion we are spending this year on defense?

It is unacceptable that the world's richest man can, at a whim, turn on and off such a vital communications network. I don't know what Musk thinks about the possibility that Chinese President Xi Jinping will launch an invasion of Taiwan — though I do know that China is the world's biggest market for electric vehicles and that Musk is trying awfully hard to sell Tesla automobiles there. I don't know what he thinks about China's border dispute with Pakistan or what he thinks about the Middle East. I really shouldn't have to care.

The U.S. government should deploy its own low-Earth-orbit satellite array, whose use would be determined by the president and the military chain of command. We spend far more on defense than any other nation, on the premise that we're buying the latest, most advanced, most effective gadgets on the planet. If our aid to Ukraine is so beholden to one man — three of whose 10 children are named Techno Mechanicus, Exa and X — we're doing something seriously wrong.

Of course, to launch our government-owned satellites, we'll probably need the reusable rockets developed by SpaceX or those made by Blue Origin (a private company owned by Jeff Bezos, who also owns The Post). Putting men on the moon was an epic national quest, in which we were all invested. Landing humans on Mars is being outsourced to the billionaires.

How to deal with the gravest threat to peace and security in Europe since the end of World War II should be a matter for our elected officials. No one elected Elon Musk.

With tearful tributes, Americans mark 22 years since 9/11



YUKI IWAMURA/AP

Firefighters salute during a moment of silence outside a ceremony in New York on the 22nd anniversary of the terrorist attacks.



AMANDA ANDRADE-RHOADES FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



ADAM GRAY/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK



JEFF SWENSEN/GETTY IMAGES

MIDDLE: Julie Wilson sits on a bench dedicated to Zandra Ploger, who was on the plane that crashed into the Pentagon on 9/11, at the Pentagon Memorial in Arlington. Wilson described Ploger as a family friend and "the cool mom" of the neighborhood she grew up in. ABOVE: Second gentleman Doug Emhoff walks along the Wall of Names with Deborah Borza, mother of victim Deora Frances Bodley, as she kisses the wall at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa. LEFT: People embrace during a ceremony at the National September 11 Memorial Museum in New York. BOTTOM LEFT: A Port Authority officer rings the bell at the time of the collapse of the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York. BOTTOM RIGHT: A flower is left on a name at the memorial at the Ground Zero site in Lower Manhattan.



MICHAEL M. SANTIAGO/GETTY IMAGES



SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

The Washington Post
METRO
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
EZ RE
B

8 a.m.	Noon	4 p.m.	8 p.m.
70°	82°	85°	79°

High today at approx. 2 p.m.
86°
Precip: 40%
Wind: SW 6-12 mph

VIRGINIA
Firefighters are battling a 2.5-acre blaze in Shenandoah National Park. **B2**



JOHN KELLY'S WASHINGTON
A heroic mobile lounge driver at Dulles helps salvage a very important trip to England. **B3**



OBITUARIES
Nancy Buirski, 78, made documentary films that offered intimate views of their subjects. **B6**

Va. candidate performed sex acts on internet

LIVE-STREAMED WITH HUSBAND FOR TIPS

Democrat running for key seat in House of Delegates

BY LAURA VOZZELLA

RICHMOND — A Democrat running for a crucial seat in Virginia's House of Delegates performed sex acts with her husband for a live online audience and encouraged viewers to pay them with "tips" for specific requests, according to online videos viewed by The Washington Post.

Susanna Gibson, a nurse practitioner and mother of two young children running in a highly competitive suburban Richmond district, streamed sex acts on Chaturbate, a platform that says it takes its name from "the act of masturbating while chatting online."

Chaturbate videos are streamed live on that site and are often archived on other publicly available sites. More than a dozen videos of the couple captured from the Chaturbate stream were archived on one of those sites — Recurbate — in September 2022, after she entered the race. The most recent were two videos archived on Sept. 30, 2022. It is unclear when the live stream occurred.

While still listed on Recurbate, those videos were no longer available for viewing as of Saturday, after a Republican operative alerted The Washington Post about them. But the videos remained live on another non-password-protected site, which The Post viewed. At least two other publicly available sites displayed explicit still photos from the videos, The Post confirmed.

Gibson, 40, can be seen in the videos soliciting "tips" for performing specific acts — in apparent violation of Chaturbate's terms and conditions, which say: "Requesting or demanding specific acts for tips may result in a ban from the Platform for all parties involved."

In at least two videos, she tells viewers she is "raising money for a good cause."

SEE **VIDEOS** ON **B4**

For women who took on Snyder, the ultimate #MeToo moment



Petula Dvorak

There were tears, hugs, at least two panic attacks and some veteran dance moves in Suite 108 at FedEx Field on Sunday.

After years of acrimony, "I can finally watch football again," said Tiffani Johnston, who once again shook burgundy and gold pompoms (this time in an executive suite as a spectator) as the Washington Commanders scored the final touchdown of their season opener and the rain clouds — in a ridiculous metaphor — parted for the sun.

"I never, ever imagined we'd be in this place right now," said Johnston, who went from cheerleading for the team to testifying before Congress about it — a David and Goliath story that ultimately saw the big man fall.

The people in that suite with Johnston — nearly all women — were the ex-cheerleaders and staffers who testified and spoke up over the way former Commanders owner Daniel Snyder did business.

Their stories alleging sexual misconduct, harassment, financial impropriety and shocking unprofessionalism made it to congressional hearings on Capitol Hill, increasing pressure on the wildly unpopular Snyder in the ramp-up to his decision to sell the team after 24 painful years at the helm.

And this day — with new owners in the box and Snyder nowhere in sight (his yacht is reportedly on a course to Singapore) — was their ultimate #MeToo moment.

"Pop!" went another champagne bottle. "I love that sound," said Melanie Coburn, a former Commanders cheerleader and marketing director who had been outspoken about the mistreatment of women in the organization.

"The universe is amazing!" she posted to X, formerly known as Twitter, alongside a shot of herself smiling and a stunning view of the field.

The stadium had sold out for the first time in years as fans who had sworn off the Commanders during the perpetually underperforming and scandal-plagued Snyder years returned to witness the team eke out a 20-16 victory over the Arizona Cardinals.

"This is really cathartic for a lot of us," she said.

Most of the hugs in that suite began with her.

It was the first time Coburn, and many others, had been to the stadium as spectators. It was the first time — for most of them — to return after explosive scandals that led to resignations and firings.

It was also the first football game — ever — for some of their attorneys.

"It's a fourth down," one of the former cheerleaders explained to a civil rights attorney. "So they get one more chance."

Side by side, some in bedazzled clothes and platforms, some in sensible shoes and pressed pants, the sisterhood of empowerment politics met itself in a mood amplified by an ebullient, sold-out crowd and explained across chests and backs in T-shirts and jerseys — a popular one being a burgundy No. 23 jersey that simply said "BYE DAN."

"It's bittersweet, to be honest," said Emily Applegate, who had recounted years of alleged sexual innuendo and bullying as a marketing coordinator when she worked for the team in 2014. "I had a panic attack coming in. It brought everything back up and I could just hear Mitch [Gershman] yelling at me as soon I got here."

Applegate was one of the first

SEE **DVORAK** ON **B2**



PETULA DVORAK/THE WASHINGTON POST

Tiffani Johnston, left, and Chastity Evans, former cheerleaders for the Washington Commanders football team, gather Sunday at a sold-out FedEx Field in Landover to celebrate the first game the NFL team played under new ownership.

Amtrak argues for takeover of station

Rail service seeks immediate control of D.C.'s Union Station

BY LUZ LAZO

Amtrak presented its case Monday for seizing control of D.C.'s Union Station, arguing before a U.S. District Court judge that an immediate takeover of the station's leasing rights — now controlled by a private company — is necessary to modernize the nation's second-busiest intercity train hub.

Judge Amit P. Mehta on Monday heard arguments from both sides, noting growing tension in recent months between Amtrak and Union Station Investco (USI) amid efforts to reach a settlement. Amtrak told the court in March that discussions had hit an impasse after 10 meetings failed to yield a purchase price that satisfied both sides.

The hearing marked a turning point in Amtrak's attempt to take the reins of the station's operations and management to pursue multibillion-dollar investments. The eminent domain case is, in part, a response to a rise in vacancies and a drop in riders at the city's largest transit hub, which is slated to receive a makeover in the next two decades.

Monday's hearing focused on Amtrak's request for immediate possession of the station as the rest of the eminent domain case winds through court in a process that could take several months, if not years. Regardless of how Mehta eventually rules, the case will move to determining fair compensation Amtrak would pay for leasing rights.

"Every day we wait, we are postponing the opportunity to improve the facility," Amtrak chief executive Stephen Gardner testified Monday. "We are increasing project costs . . . and we are delaying the services and improvements necessary to give our customers the experience that they expect from us."

Taking over the station in short order, Gardner said, would allow Amtrak to advance "a whole series of projects" that are critical to rail operations in the Northeast Corridor. Amtrak is ready, he said, to make changes at the station such as adding seating and signage in the main hall, creating an area for law enforcement, increasing security surveillance and expanding customer service in an area Amtrak already leases.

The station, which opened in 1907 in the heart of the nation's capital, is owned by the federal government but is leased to and operated by other entities. In its complaint filed in April 2022, Amtrak sought control of the property interest owned by USI, a subsidiary of New York-based

SEE **AMTRAK** ON **B3**

Arrest made in the fatal 1994 stabbing of mother

DNA sample helped identify suspect decades after the brutal slaying

BY OLIVIA DIAZ AND MICHELLE BOORSTEIN

Nearly 29 years after someone killed Ollie Lawrence Jr.'s wife, he received a startling email at his home in southern France. The message, shaking awake the brutal past on Friday, said to call a detective in Fairfax County, where Robin Warr Lawrence was slashed to death in their home in 1994.

He picked up his phone. The detective told him police had a suspect in custody, Ollie Lawrence said in an interview Monday with The Washington Post.

The development came after decades in which police were stumped by the stabbing and slashing death, which left the couple's 2-year-old wandering alone in the house in West Springfield, Va., for days on the weekend before Thanksgiving in 1994.

At a news conference Monday, police identified the suspect as 51-year-old Stephan Smerk, of Niskayuna, N.Y. They alleged he

SEE **COLD CASE** ON **B4**



TOM ALLEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Jessie and Robert Warr hold a photo of their slain daughter, Robin Warr Lawrence, in their living room in October 1996.

Firm files report on alleged misconduct by Md. principal

BY ALEXANDRA ROBBINS AND NICOLE ASBURY

An investigation of a middle school principal who allegedly bullied and harassed dozens of teachers "raises significant issues about the vetting and promotion of personnel within MCPS," the Montgomery County Board of Education said in a statement Friday after the law firm hired to examine the matter filed its first report.

The board did not answer questions about whether or how the investigation — into Farquhar Middle School Principal Joel Beidleman, the subject of at least 18 harassment, bullying and retaliation complaints to the district since 2016 — would proceed. It had said last month that the next phase from Jackson Lewis, the law firm hired to investigate after a Washington Post article documented the complaints, would concern potential Title IX violations by Beidleman, but the board later asked government inspectors general to take over.

"Next steps will be determined soon," Board of Education President Karla Silvestre said in a text message, when asked if Jackson Lewis will proceed with phase two of the investigation. She did not respond to further questions, which included what "significant issues" were raised in the law firm's initial report or when it

SEE **SCHOOLS** ON **B5**

PETULA DVORAK

Women who spoke out against Snyder take in cathartic scene at FedEx Field



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Melanie Coburn, left, and Megan Imbert spoke with reporters at FedEx Field in November 2021 about allegations against the Commanders. The former employees were at Sunday's game vs. the Cardinals.

DVORAK FROM B1

women to speak out against Snyder in a Washington Post story by Will Hobson and Liz Clarke in 2020. She left the team after one year and it took her awhile to understand that the workplace culture she said was harassing, berating and lewd was not normal.

"I was in my 20s," said Applegate, who now works as a legal assistant and is heading back to law school. "It was my first adult, corporate job. I didn't know any better."

The gathering was put together by Lisa Banks, the lead lawyer who represented the staffers who all said their dream jobs in the NFL turned into nightmares under Snyder's leadership.

Snyder had weathered so many scandals: the improperly chopped trees on his property, the controversial team name, the stadium location, ticket price hikes, an NFL investigation into unsavory profit-making schemes, the dismal team record, plummeting attendance, and unofficial videos using nude outtakes of cheerleader photo shoots.

But it was the two investigations into complaints by dozens of employees, the $60 million fine by the National Football League — all started by the people in Suite 108 plus others who didn't come — that helped push him out, Banks said.

"This is one of my most meaningful representations," Banks said. "And I feel like we have a lot to celebrate."



PETULA DVORAK/THE WASHINGTON POST

Emily Applegate was one of the first to speak out against the alleged sexual harassment.

The women included the leader of the National Women's Law Center, Fatima Goss Graves, and Jennifer Mondino, the director of the Time's Up Legal Defense Fund. These are the powerhouses behind the wave of firings, lawsuits and blockbuster revelations that were a part of the #MeToo movement.

It's not often that civil rights attorneys get such a definitive win. This day was their spike of the ball.

None of Banks's clients work with the Commanders anymore. A lot of them wouldn't mind returning. All of them, as we spoke during the game, wondered whether the new owners even knew they were there.

"I think we would all like to know they hear us," said Megan Imbert, a former producer in the broadcast department who walked into an editing bay in the summer of 2008 and saw an image on the screen she later learned was the lewd close-up of a cheerleader that would be used for that notorious video.

Imbert and Coburn have protested outside the Commanders' stadium when the NFL took its time releasing the sexual harassment and workplace investigation. And they've been vocal in insisting the league comprehend the scope of the team's dysfunction.

They were talking about the long road they took the past few years when someone caused a stir near the pasta station and wine bar. It was Tad Brown, CEO of Harris Blitzer Sports and Entertainment, the ownership group that bought the Commanders. The women gathered around to speak with and to him.

He declined to comment on the record.

"It's great that he came," one former cheerleader said to another. "I mean, at least that, right?"

Brad Baker, a former team broadcast producer who helped in the cheerleader video investigation, echoed what many of the other women said: The NFL's problems weren't limited to the Commanders.

"I feel like with this, we scored a touchdown," Baker said. "But we didn't win the game."

VIRGINIA

Firefighters battling blaze in Shenandoah

BY JUSTIN WM. MOYER

Firefighters are battling a 2.5-acre blaze in Virginia's Shenandoah National Park that started amid drought conditions last week, authorities said.

The National Park Service said firefighters have been working since Friday to contain the Millers Head Fire, which was ignited by natural causes that afternoon and is burning on steep, rocky terrain and smoldering in timber and leaf litter.

Shenandoah National Park spokesperson Carly Adams said Monday that about 18 firefighters were on the scene creating a "fuel break" around the fire to contain it. So far, the blaze is about 30 percent contained and holding at 2.5 acres, she said in an interview.

Though up to a half-inch of rain fell at the park in recent days, according to Adams, the precipitation did not wholly extinguish the flames. Facilities and trails in the park are unaffected as firefighters continue operations, she said.

"They are hard at work," Adams said. "It's a reminder that it has been extremely dry over this season. . . . Wildfires are still a threat. They can start very easily and spread when the ground is dry."

The Millers Head Fire, which is about 90 miles west of the District, comes as regions west of the District face drought conditions after a record-setting heat wave with temperatures that climbed into the triple digits.

Adams said anyone who sees fires or smoke should call park officials at 1-800-732-0911. An online map of the fire is available through the National Park Service, and conditions at the park can also be viewed via webcam.



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Firefighters work to contain a 2.5-acre blaze in Shenandoah National Park in Virginia that ignited amid drought conditions.

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Some highs and lows from multiple trips through Dulles



John Kelly's Washington

You may remember that I was in England in August for my daughter's wedding. (It's quite okay if you don't.) Well, I was *back* in England last weekend, in Oxford this time, for the reunion of a journalism fellowship I did there in 2007.

I stressed over whether to stay in England for the 11 days between the wedding and the reunion. Staying would have meant having to cadge lodging from friends. Plus, I have a job, which is called "John Kelly's Washington," not "John Kelly's London/Oxford." So I made two trips, the second one paid for with frequent-flier miles.

I've never traveled much for my job, unless you count driving to places like Woodbridge and Waldorf, with the occasional foray to Frederick. I don't know how people do constant international travel. Washington is full of such people.

My wife became good at it. At peak business trip, **Ruth** was flying somewhere every few weeks. She knew how to pack, what time to fly, what to do once she was on the plane. After boarding, she'd decline the meal, don the eye mask and noise-canceling headphones, and try to sleep.

I always found this boring, since eating a meal, drinking some wine and watching a movie seemed to be part of the experience.

Ruth doesn't travel as much anymore and, frankly, I think she's lost a step. When we were leaving in August for our daughter's wedding, Ruth managed to arrive at our gate at Dulles without her passport. It had disappeared somewhere between security and the plane.

Of course, they wouldn't let her board without her passport, and it looked like she might miss the flight. And if she couldn't find her passport, she might miss the wedding.

I boarded the plane — **Beatrice** would need at least one parent at her wedding — and Ruth raced back toward security. That meant taking one of the mobile lounges back to the main terminal. One just happened to be waiting. When she explained what had happened, the driver immediately said "Get aboard!"

Ruth hopped on and off they went.

Fortunately, the passport had been turned in. Ruth grabbed it and sprinted back to the mobile lounges. The same driver was there and they roared back to Terminal C.

Not only did Ruth make the flight, she lived every Dulles passenger's dream: a personal ride on a mobile lounge. To that driver, we say thank you.

The entire lead-up to that flight was nerve-racking. We'd stepped off the bus from long-term parking only to find the main terminal was being evacuated. Crowds were milling around outside the swoopy **Eero Saarinen**-designed building.

It turned out that a police Segway had caught fire inside.

All this made my quick trip over the weekend boring by comparison. I did put a compression sock on inside out, which made me worry I'd turned them into tension socks (that's an engineering joke), but nothing caught fire and I managed to hold on to my passport.

And I always love visiting Oxford, a truly magical city. Though it dates to Saxon times and has a library — the Bodleian — that was established in 1602, it's constantly changing. Every time I go, there's a new building going up amid the old ones.

Not that all the change is welcome. Local businesses have been struggling for the last few years, hit by covid, rising energy prices and changing shopping habits. I stopped by the Covered Market to visit M. Feller & Daughter butchers. Alas, I found the shop locked up tight and a sign on the window announcing the business had closed in March.

But what, I wondered, had become of the World's Oldest Ham?! This was a pork shoulder imported from Chicago in 1892. In 1993, butcher **Micheál Feller** bought it at auction for 1,000 pounds. He displayed it in his shop window as a curiosity piece.

The World's Oldest Ham may have resembled a diseased lung, but to me it was a quirky emblem of Oxford. And yet in all the sad coverage of a beloved local business closing, there was no mention of what had become of the World's Oldest Ham.

I did some sleuthing and am relieved to report that when the shop closed, Hiscock & Shepherd Antiques of Stow-on-the Wold in Gloucester purchased the World's Oldest Ham. They are entertaining enquiries in the neighborhood of 1,500 pounds ($1,880).

It is not typical of the items they carry, **Erna Hiscock** wrote in an email. The firm is known for handling needlework collections — Micheál Feller and his wife, **Elizabeth**, are noted sampler and needlework connoisseurs — but the World's Oldest Ham was too good to pass up.

Besides, Erna pointed out, Hiscock & Shepherd had previously sold the World's Oldest Hot Cross Bun.



KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

A mobile lounge driver at Dulles International Airport helped salvage the Kellys' trip to London for the wedding of their younger daughter when John Kelly's wife left her passport in the main terminal.

Amtrak seeks control of Union Station, arguing it is needed to modernize hub

AMTRAK FROM **B1**

Ashkenazy Acquisition, which in 2007 obtained subleasing rights through 2084.

Amtrak's complaint also names as a defendant Kookmin Bank, a South Korean investment trust and lender in the property. Real estate investment management company Rexmark took ownership of USI after a foreclosure case last year.

The defense on Monday questioned Amtrak's strategy of seeking to acquire the lease, saying the railroad filed the eminent domain case within days of offering USI $250 million to acquire leasing rights. Defense attorney Paul Kiernan said the railroad "squeezed this process," questioning whether Amtrak negotiated in good faith.

Dennis Newman, Amtrak's executive vice president for strategy, planning and accessibility, said the railroad was "very concerned" about the status of Union Station and USI's financial troubles, which eventually led to the company's foreclosure sale. He said Amtrak never received a counteroffer and multiple communications went unanswered, which the railroad took as a sign that USI was not interested in negotiating.

Amtrak owns the station's platforms and railroad tracks. The U.S. government in 1985 authorized the nonprofit Union Station Redevelopment Corp. (USRC) to oversee the property. Union Station Investco bought sublease rights through USRC.

Defense attorneys argued Monday that Amtrak would need congressional support or action by the U.S. transportation secretary to break the original lease agreement between USRC and USI's predecessor. The judge questioned why that argument was not made in the months preceding Monday's hearing.

Under federal code, Amtrak has authority to use eminent domain to acquire interests in property necessary for the use of intercity passenger rail operations. Attorneys for the companies have challenged Amtrak's authority to use eminent domain, saying the carrier hasn't met requirements under U.S. law to take over Union Station, including proving the entire property is needed for its transportation operations.

Amtrak's proposals include a long-planned concourse expansion and repairs to a tunnel the railroad said is "in serious need of repair or replacement."

Amtrak argued Monday that negotiating for more space and permits to advance projects at the station has been challenging over the years and slowed progress on important work for railroad operations. By taking control of the station's leasing rights, Amtrak said it would remove a governance layer — the private company — at the station and allow Amtrak to negotiate directly with USRC about changes to Union Station.

Gardner introduced plans at the hearing for an overhaul of the station's spaces, including the addition of a children's area in the main hall similar to playgrounds at some U.S. airports. In addition, he said, Amtrak would expand its lounge area for first-class passengers, expand and modernize baggage facilities, create a space for crew members to take breaks and return its headquarters offices to the building. Amtrak's administrative offices moved out of Union Station five years ago after lease negotiations fell through.

Amtrak said it would add customer service stations, restrooms and new passenger seating areas, including in the main hall. It also plans to repurpose space in the lower level formerly occupied by a movie theater.

Michael Rebibo, founder and managing principal at Rexmark, said if Amtrak is granted authority to take over, it would "effectively terminate the [existing] leases." He said it would also undo efforts in the past year to attract retail and food businesses to the station, which Rexmark has been negotiating since it took over USI.

"I think those efforts will be undone," he said, noting the company has worked with Amtrak on projects and has not denied the railroad's requests. He also said Amtrak could complete its concourse renovation under the existing arrangement.

Defense attorney David Scharf agreed, saying none of the projects Amtrak cited in its lawsuit are slated for immediate construction or required the immediate transfer of leasing rights.

"The Amtrak sublease provides Amtrak with the ability to move forward with the projects without hindrance," he said.

Amtrak's legal moves come amid a push from the railroad and USRC for a multibillion-dollar expansion and overhaul of Union Station that would add concourses, tracks, retail options, a new train hall and modern parking and bus facilities. The proposed expansion, at least a $9 billion private and public investment, calls for a transformation of the hub by 2040.

Since last year's filing, a new management team at USRC has spearheaded efforts to improve the station's public areas and draw more support for the redevelopment. Short-term changes have centered on improving cleanliness, lighting and security. Restoration work for the historic main hall is being planned as part of about $20 million in projects over the next few years.

Amtrak recently completed upgrades to its premium lounge and restrooms near the boarding gates. It also plans to add an art display later this year as part of beautification efforts.

In the longer term, Amtrak has planned for years to remake the concourse to double capacity, improve accessibility and alleviate crowding, but that project — which was to begin in 2019 — has been on hold.

Amtrak subleases a small portion of the station — about 13.4 percent — for railroad operations, which includes the concourse area where passengers enter before going to the platform. Officials say they want to create a more modern space for the 100,000 intercity, commuter and local travelers who pass through Union Station daily.

In filings last year, Kookmin and USI rebutted Amtrak's allegation that the station is plagued by poor maintenance and a lack of capital investment. According to the Amtrak filing, about $75 million in deferred maintenance is needed at Union Station, citing an assessment by USI and the Federal Railroad Administration.

Rexmark took over the station's commercial side late last year and named Matt Barry, who led Tysons Corner Center for four years, as general manager to oversee revitalization efforts. The company has been negotiating leases to fill empty storefronts, noting recent improvements in cleanliness and amenities.

It could be weeks before Mehta rules on Amtrak's request for immediate possession of Union Station. Meanwhile, the eminent domain case will move forward to determine a fair compensation amount that Amtrak would pay to Rexmark, which has argued Amtrak's offer of $250 million is inadequate. If the two sides can't agree, the process might take years, possibly including a trial.



BILL O'LEARY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Amtrak has authority to use eminent domain to acquire interests in property necessary for intercity passenger rail operations. Others say the carrier hasn't met requirements to take over Union Station, including proving the entire property is needed for its operations.

LOCAL DIGEST

MARYLAND

2 men in Pr. George's fatally shot, police say

Two people were found fatally shot late Sunday in Prince George's County, police said.

One of the victims was found in a vehicle and the other person nearby, police said.

Both were found about 11:10 p.m. in the 5500 block of Livingston Terrace in the Oxon Hill/Forest Heights area.

The man found in the vehicle died at a hospital, police said. The victim found outside it, described only as male, died at the scene, police said.

The site is a residential and commercial area just east of Indian Head Highway.

— Martin Weil

Man is killed in fatal shooting, officials say

A 22-year-old man was killed in a shooting Friday afternoon in Clinton, Prince George's County police said.

Police responded to a shooting at approximately 4:15 p.m. in the 8700 block of Mike Shapiro Drive. A man found outside suffering from gunshot wounds died at the scene, police said in a statement. They identified him as 22-year-old Rasharrd Pryor of Temple Hills.

Police said they are working to determine a motive and identify a suspect. They did not release any additional information about Pryor.

Police asked anyone with information relevant to the investigation to call detectives at 301-516-2512, contact Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477), or go online at *pgcrimesolvers.com.*

A reward of up to $25,000 is being offered for information leading to an arrest and indictment in this case, police said.

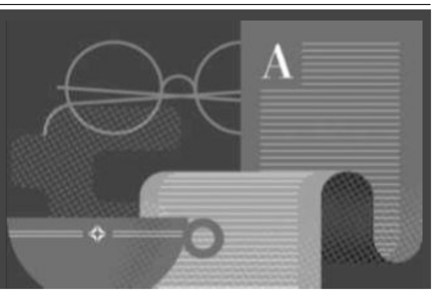
— Omari Daniels

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Gibson says sharing of sex videos is 'invasion of privacy'

VIDEOS FROM B1

In multiple videos, Gibson interrupts sex acts to type into a bedside computer. Speaking directly into the screen, she urges viewers to provide tips, which are paid through "tokens" purchased through the site. In at least two videos, she agrees to perform certain acts only in a "private room," an arrangement that requires the viewer to pay more.

"I need, like, more tokens before I let him do that," she responds to a request that they perform a certain act. "One token, no. More. Raising money for a good cause."

Almost immediately, as tips apparently arrive, she says "thank you" five times and tells her husband she will agree to that act.

Gibson takes the lead in addressing viewers on videos viewed by The Post, but in one case her husband, an attorney, chimes in with, "C'mon, guys," to echo her entreaties for tips.

In a written statement, Gibson called the exposure of the videos "an illegal invasion of my privacy designed to humiliate me and my family."

"It won't intimidate me and it won't silence me," she said. "My political opponents and their Republican allies have proven they're willing to commit a sex crime to attack me and my family because there's no line they won't cross to silence women when they speak up."

Daniel P. Watkins, a lawyer for Gibson, said disseminating the videos constitutes a violation of the state's revenge porn law, which makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to "maliciously" distribute nude or sexual images of another person with "intent to coerce, harass, or intimidate."

"We are working closely with state and federal law enforcement," Watkins said.

The Post typically does not identify victims of alleged sex crimes to protect their privacy. In this case, Gibson originally livestreamed these sexual acts on a site that was not password-protected. The couple had more than 5,700 followers there. Many of the videos remained available to the public on other unrestricted sites as of Saturday. Watkins said Gibson was not aware of, and had not authorized, the posting of Chaturbate material on other sites.

Asked why Gibson had a reasonable expectation of privacy on Chaturbate, Watkins pointed to a 2021 Virginia Court of Appeals ruling that found it was unlawful for a man to secretly record his girlfriend during a consensual sexual encounter even if he did not show the video to others.

In that case, *Ronnie Lee Johnson v. Commonwealth of Virginia*, the court found that consent to being seen is not the same as consent to being recorded, writing that there was a "stark distinction between an image existing only in someone's memory ... [and] a permanent file that may be shared or re-viewed indefinitely."

Gibson faces Republican David Owen, a retired home builder, on Nov. 7, when all 140 seats in Virginia's House and Senate will be on the ballot.

"Me and my team found out about this story today like everyone else," Owen said in a written statement Monday afternoon, soon after The Post published an article about Gibson. "I'm sure this is a difficult time for Susanna and her family, and I'm remaining focused on my campaign."

The Republican operative who alerted The Post to the videos denied any connection to the Owen campaign or other groups active in Virginia elections this year. The operative provided the information on the condition of anonymity to avoid being drawn into the controversy.

Corey D. Silverstein, a prominent adult entertainment industry lawyer, said there is nothing illegal about streaming sex acts online as long as the participants and viewers are consenting adults — even if they are paid to perform specific acts.

"There is absolutely no law that they are violating — none," he said. "In this case, you have two adults who are engaging in consensual sex, and they've decided they want to broadcast that, and they're doing so in exchange for tipping. There's absolutely nothing illegal about it."

"I think it's fantastic you have someone running who has an open sex life. It's actually very refreshing," added Silverstein, who is based in Michigan but practices around the country and the world.

Gibson and Owen are both well financed and running with support from their parties' senior leaders. They are vying for an open seat in the 57th House District — highly competitive territory that covers parts of Henrico and Goochland counties.

Theirs is one of just a handful of contests in each chamber expected to determine control of the legislature and whether Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) can enact a conservative political agenda that includes banning abortion after 15 weeks, with some exceptions. The outcome on Election Day also could boost or dim Youngkin's prospects as a potential last-minute candidate for the GOP presidential nomination.

Saddled with a divided Capitol for the first half of his four-year term, Youngkin has been unable to enact the abortion ban, corporate tax cuts or other priorities. Virginia is the only Southern state that has not tightened abortion restrictions since June 2022, when the Supreme Court ruled that states could make their own decisions about the procedure.

Both chambers are up for grabs as Republicans defend their narrow majority in the House (49-46) and Democrats try to retain theirs in the Senate (22-18).

The state's newly drawn political maps triggered a wave of retirements and created a host of open seats, including the one Gibson and Owen are seeking in a toss-up district. After Youngkin won it by three points in 2021, the district tilted ever-so-narrowly blue — 50 percent to 49 percent — in last year's congressional midterms, according to an analysis by the nonpartisan Virginia Public Access Project.

Gibson has outraised Owen $377,000 to $340,000, but Gibson spent nearly $300,000 of her haul battling a fellow Democrat in the June 20 primary. She defeated Bob Shippee by double digits for the nomination but had just $77,000 on hand in the fundraising period that concluded June 30. Owen, who faced no primary opponent, had about $166,000 in cash at the end of that period.

Gibson's two largest donors are the environmental group Clean Virginia Fund ($45,000) and the abortion rights outfit Emily's List ($20,000). Her campaign website lists priorities that include preserving abortion rights, banning assault weapons, lowering the cost of living and protecting the environment.

Gibson appeared alongside other Henrico-area legislative candidates Saturday afternoon at a rally headlined by Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.).

Gibson said alerting the media to the videos is dirty politics — aimed at silencing "women when they speak up."

"They are trying to silence me because they want to silence you, and I won't let that happen," her statement said. "My opponent and his allies know that the people of this district are on our side on the issues, so they're stooping to the worst gutter politics. There's too much at stake in this election and I'll never stop fighting for our community."

Gibson's campaign website displays pictures of her smiling in a white lab coat and scrubs, a stethoscope over her shoulders. Other photos show her interacting with her husband and children over a meal and a board game.

The site says she has worked in the medical field for nearly 15 years in the greater Richmond area, including in geriatrics, home-based primary care, emergency medicine, internal medicine and obesity medicine. It also identifies Gibson as a graduate of the University of Virginia and Columbia University, a Virginia native and a resident of western Henrico for more than a decade.

Dalton Bennett contributed to this report.

VIRGINIA

Democrats lining up behind Kiggans challenger in 2024 congressional race

BY GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER

RICHMOND — Democrats in Virginia's congressional delegation are already uniting behind Navy veteran Missy Cotter Smasal to challenge Rep. Jen A. Kiggans (R) in 2024, with Reps. Abigail Spanberger and Jennifer Wexton releasing endorsements Tuesday morning.

Cotter Smasal, who ran unsuccessfully for state Senate in 2019, announced last week that she would seek the Democratic nomination in the hotly contested 2nd Congressional District, which is based in Hampton Roads with Virginia Beach at its heart.

Kiggans, also a Navy veteran, defeated Rep. Elaine Luria (D-Va.) by four points in 2022, reclaiming the district for the GOP just four years after Luria had flipped it to blue. Kiggans's win was the sole pickup for Republicans in last year's congressional races, and Democrats are wasting no time getting in position to try to take it back.

Cotter Smasal "knows what it means to serve her community and her country," Spanberger said in her endorsement, with Wexton adding that she would be "a trusted partner in our work to grow Virginia's middle-class."

Rep. Jennifer McClellan (D-Va.) endorsed Cotter Smasal last week. No other Democrat has filed to run in the district.

Cotter Smasal served as a surface warfare officer in the Navy, then owned an Italian ice business in Virginia Beach for a decade. She now is executive director of Valor Run, a nonprofit that stages races and running events to benefit military women.

Her bid for state Senate in 2019 was one of the most expensive races in the state that year. She ran heavily on a gun safety message in a district that had suffered a mass-casualty shooting event at Virginia Beach's municipal offices, but lost by about 4 points to a favored Republican incumbent.

In announcing her run for Congress, Cotter Smasal emphasized safeguarding abortion rights and issues related to military families.

Kiggans, a former Navy helicopter pilot who had served in the state Senate before winning her congressional seat, also ran on issues related to veterans and military families.

Delanie Bomar, spokeswoman for the National Republican Congressional Committee, issued a statement last week calling Cotter Smasal "an extreme Democrat with a losing record who is the wrong fit for this district. Meanwhile, Congresswoman Jen A. Kiggans is delivering support for service members' mental health and fighting to preserve Medicare and Social Security."

The 2nd Congressional District has tended to favor Republicans in most elections, but went for Democrat Ralph Northam in the 2017 gubernatorial race and for Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) in 2018 as well as supporting Luria for two terms. Glenn Youngkin (R) won the district by 11 points in his 2021 gubernatorial bid.


GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER/THE WASHINGTON POST
Missy Cotter Smasal announced last week that she would seek the Democratic nomination in the 2nd Congressional District.



Man charged in decades-old slaying

COLD CASE FROM B1

was in the Army working at Fort Myer at the time and attacked Robin Lawrence, 37, at random.

Police said a break in the case came when Parabon NanoLabs, a DNA technology company in Northern Virginia, was able to link a DNA profile found at the scene to a family tree and create an image of a possible suspect. That helped detectives zero in on Smerk, a man who police said was living with his wife and two high school-aged children in New York when authorities contacted him.

Fairfax County Police Chief Kevin Davis said that Smerk — who had no other known prior criminal history — confessed to the slaying after investigators approached him. He was charged with second-degree murder and is awaiting extradition from New York to Virginia, Davis said. The chief said investigators are still probing a motive while they await the results of DNA testing to see if a sample taken from Smerk matches the one taken from the crime scene.

"I was flabbergasted. You could have probably knocked me over with a feather," said Ollie Lawrence, who remarried 12 years ago and has since retired in the south of France. "After all of this time, you have hope, but you also wonder: 'Will they really find someone after 29 years?'"

Efforts to reach Smerk's relatives Monday were not immediately successful. A Fairfax County police official said he had been honorably discharged from the military. Police initially spelled his first name as Stephen, though they later said that was in error.

Robin Lawrence was originally from Syracuse, N.Y., where her father, Robert Warr, was the first Black city council member and served in the late 1960s and early 1970s. During her first marriage, she lived in Connecticut, but divorced and moved to D.C. in the mid-1980s. She married Ollie Lawrence in 1989. They had a daughter, Nicole.

At the time of her death, Robin Lawrence was director of promotion and merchandising at Merchant's Tire and Auto Center in Manassas. She'd graduated from Carnegie Mellon's College of Fine Arts.

"She was an artist and a graphic designer," Ollie Lawrence said. "She was a very artsy person. She was very well loved by many."


Stephan Smerk

According to news reports at the time, Ollie Lawrence was traveling for business the week before Thanksgiving of 1994. His wife went to work on a Friday, came home and dropped off their nanny about 6:30 p.m. Lawrence called Robin late Friday but got no answer. He called on Saturday as well. Anxious, he called a friend to check on Robin Lawrence.

The friend and another woman called the police and drove to the home on Reseca Lane, reports at the time say. They found Nicole, dehydrated with badly soiled diapers. And they found blood.

"Our young daughter had to spend the weekend in the house," Ollie Lawrence said. "I advised a friend to go to the house because I hadn't heard from Robin. That's when she was found."

Police said Robin Lawrence was stabbed and slashed repeatedly. They said there was no sign of forced entry, theft or sexual assault. Fairfax County police had initially considered her husband, then-USAir's vice president for human resources, to be a possible suspect, Lawrence himself said, even though he was in the Bahamas the weekend she was slain.

"I was always disappointed in the detectives because they seemed to spend an inordinate amount of time [on] me as a suspect. I recognize and respect the fact they needed to rule me out. But I was out of the country and could prove it," Lawrence said. He later added: "It didn't impact me much because I knew I didn't do it. But I was seriously concerned they were focusing on the wrong person in the case."

Lawrence said he periodically spoke with detectives as years went by, checking to see whether there had been any developments in the case. The killing was a mystery and remained one for decades.

Lawrence said his family members are interested in learning as much about the case as they can in light of the arrest. But he said the new charges bring an array of emotions connected to reliving Robin's slaying.

"It does resurrect the loss and grief," Lawrence said.

Eli Cory, Fairfax County's deputy chief of police for investigations, said at the news conference that in 2019, detectives sent in a DNA sample from the crime scene to Parabon NanoLabs, which developed a family tree of the suspect based on a relative's DNA profile that had been entered into an online genealogical database.

After three years of working with DNA technology, Davis said, detectives went to Niskayuna to further their investigation.

Detectives saw Smerk placing trash bins at the end of his driveway and approached him, Davis said. They asked Smerk if they could swab his cheeks for a DNA sample, and he said yes, without hesitation, Davis said. Detectives took the sample and left their business card with Smerk.

After they got back to their hotel, Davis said detectives got a call. It was Smerk. He said he wanted to talk to detectives immediately, and went the local Niskayuna police station to turn himself in, Davis said. There, detectives listened as Smerk confessed to the crime, the chief said.

"He talked about killing Robin," Davis said.

Keith L. Alexander, Cate Brown and Magda Jean-Louis contributed to this report.

MARYLAND

Whipping up cafeteria excitement

Baltimore turns to social media, food trucks to promote school lunches

BY AMANDA YEAGER



AMY DAVIS/BALTIMORE SUN

Kamiara West, a student at Baltimore's Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School, rates her school lunches on Instagram.

BALTIMORE — Kamiara West positioned her plate to take advantage of the midday light streaming through the windows, angling her phone to capture an artful view of her chicken Caesar salad with a garlic knot on the side.

She took a few photos, then turned her phone to show them off.

The snaps could easily be those of a food influencer-in-the-making. But the subject wasn't a trendy new Baltimore restaurant. Instead, West, 18, was photographing one of the meals of the day in the cafeteria at Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School.

Since 2021, the Mervo senior has been making short reviews of her school lunches and posting them to an Instagram account, @merv0_food_. Last fall, the pepperoni pizza, a side salad and peach applesauce scored an 8 out of 10 rating from West. A cheeseburger, salad and crinkle-cut fries got a 5.5 out of 10.

Sometimes, West will include constructive criticism about the meals: Vegetables could be chopped a little smaller, for instance, or fries could be cooked a little longer.

Then there are the slam-dunks, like a popcorn chicken meal that earned a perfect score last October. "Today lunch was a 10/10 really good," West wrote. "Chicken wasn't dry and rice was cooked right."

As a new school year begins, West is getting ready to post some new reviews. This time around, she's caught the eye of Baltimore City Public Schools administrators, who arranged a paid internship for West over the summer and will work with her this year to spread the word about her Instagram reviews.

The collaboration is part of a broader push to get students in city schools excited about lunchtime. Long stigmatized as bland and unappealing, cafeteria food has seen a marked improvement in recent years, administrators say — and they hope kids will take note.

"I think the image that people have of school meals is that it's not healthy, that it's disgusting and gross," said Elizabeth Marchetta, executive director of food and nutrition services for Baltimore City Public Schools. "So we have really tried to find ways to connect and promote a more realistic image. And really, for many people, that is getting them to try the food. We want them to know that what we're serving is really high quality, and that it is out there, and it is available."

In Baltimore, school meals have been free for all public school students since 2015, because of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Eligibility Provision, which allows school districts in low-income areas to serve free meals to all students without requiring proof of household income. The program "eliminates a lot of stigma," Marchetta said, and also dispenses with burdensome paperwork that sometimes got in the way of feeding children who most need free meals.

Administrators are seeing encouraging signs that more students are warming to the idea of school meals. City schools served 20 percent more lunches during the 2022-23 academic year — a difference of more than 7,000 meals per day — compared with the year before. Accounting for breakfast, lunch, snacks and dinner, the district serves more than 65,000 meals to students per day, totaling nearly 12 million meals annually.

Marchetta and her colleagues at food and nutrition services would like to see that number grow to 13 million meals served this academic year. To accomplish that lofty goal, they are hoping that thinking outside the lunch box — with initiatives like a food truck, Instagram outreach and new menu items — will make a difference.

West started her Instagram page "as a joke" two years ago, when she was in 10th grade. But when it started gaining traction among classmates, she decided to keep posting.

"I wasn't really serious about it," West said, "but as time went on, we decided to keep going."

Her formula is simple: She snaps a picture of the meal of the day before eating, then she crowdsources her ratings, asking friends for their take on the food and posting an average of the responses. Sometimes, friends will send her photos to post to the account, which had 86 followers as of last week.

West, a student in Mervo's culinary arts program, aspires to become a chef and eventually a therapist, too. She's known among classmates for her baking skills.

Though in the past her Instagram posts could be sporadic, she wants to post more frequently this year. During her summer internship with the school system, she picked up photography techniques from local food influencer Simone Phillips (who posts under the handle @charmcitytable), and explored the behind-the-scenes world of school lunches with tours of cafeterias and the city schools food truck.

She has the support of food and nutrition services staff like Cynthia Shea, the district's central kitchen manager, who plans to work with West to come up with a social media strategy so that she can pass the account to a younger student after she graduates.

But Shea said she doesn't filter West's school lunch takes. Like any student, the senior has her likes and dislikes. She's not a fan of tomatoes on Caesar salad or most cafeteria bread, which she says often has a "super grainy" texture. On the other hand, West is enthusiastic about the cafeteria's beans and the mashed potatoes, which are "not super creamy but not super chunky."

The school district's data shows that enduring favorites like pizza and peanut butter are among the most popular school meals. A city schools audit found proteins are the least-wasted cafeteria item, whereas milk is the item most likely to be thrown in the trash.

Food and nutrition services staff are always on the hunt for a winning menu item. This year, they're test-driving chicken Caesar salads and sweet and spicy broccoli tossed in chili sauce, among other additions.

To be reimbursable, school meals must meet the USDA's nutrition standards, so any change to the menu sets off a balancing act. "It's like a puzzle piece if something shifts," said Monique Rolle, the school system's manager of menu planning and procurement.

The nutritional standards mean french fries are baked, not fried; bread is multigrain; and higher-calorie items like packets of Ken's Caesar salad dressing are restricted to one per student. Cafeteria staff like Katherine Carter are stationed in the busy lunch lines to pass out condiments and take notes on each meal.

"Today was hectic," Carter said at the end of a recent Mervo lunch period during which the Caesar salad was introduced.

"The kids went nuts," said Latoya Roberson, a cafeteria manager at the high school. "They always like new things when we introduce them."

The allure of novelty is also the strategy behind the school system's food truck, the Str/EATS Cafe.

Launched as a pilot program two years ago, the truck became a regular part of school lunch service this summer, serving meals to children and adults alike through a grant from Giant Food's "Nourishing Our Youth" campaign.

During the academic year, the Str/EATS truck will serve breakfast to students on their way into the school building. Rather than being served on a tray, food is packaged in clear containers with deli paper, emulating restaurant takeout. Marchetta hopes the presentation, as well as the colorful truck with art designed by students, will encourage some kids to take a meal.

"We really recognize the way in which students are receiving their food plays into it," she said. "And so for us, it was very much a marketing thing. It'll get students excited."

Back in the Mervo cafeteria, West was getting ready to taste the food she had just photographed. She finished all of her chicken Caesar salad — a vote of confidence. The bigger test was the garlic knot, another new menu item.

West took a bite and chewed thoughtfully.

"It's kind of sweet," she said. "I like my garlic bread more on the savory side."

Still, she reflected, the texture was good. She would have another bite.

That was a win in Shea's book.

Whether it's at the food truck or on Instagram, the goal is to "change minds and engage students where they are," she said. "This is where they are."

— Baltimore Sun

MARYLAND

Teen girl fatally shot near her high school in Prince George's County

BY NICOLE ASBURY AND JASMINE HILTON

A girl was fatally shot Monday in the Lanham area near DuVal High School, where she attended classes, according to Prince George's County police.

The shooting took place near Palamar and Woodstream drives, police said. According to a preliminary investigation, the student was walking down Palamar Drive about 3:45 p.m., shortly after school ended, said Zachary O'Lare, acting deputy chief of the police department's bureau of investigations and forensic science. While she was walking, there was a dispute between two groups, during which a gun went off.

The girl was taken to a hospital with critical injuries. She was later pronounced dead.

Police were unsure on Monday whether the girl was involved in one of the groups who were arguing. They said they did not know whether other students were part of the groups.

Two schools — Robert Goddard Montessori School and DuVal High School — were placed on lockdown while police started an investigation. The lockdowns were lifted approximately an hour later, about 5 p.m.

Grief counselors and mental health professionals will be at DuVal High starting Tuesday, according to a statement from Prince George's County Public Schools.

The school system — which is Maryland's second-largest with about 131,000 students — is in the process of adding weapons detectors to all its high schools this school year. DuVal High was set to receive security equipment "in the next couple of months," but that will be expedited "to ensure that this community feels the kind of safety we know it wants," Schools Superintendent Millard House II said during a news conference Monday. The school also will have security training in the days ahead.

"As we mourn her untimely departure, we must also confront the harsh reality that such tragedy should never have occurred — whether it be in Prince George's County or any other county," House said. He added that "change in our schools, change in our community must happen."

A woman, who spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of her safety, said she lives in the neighborhood just down the street from the shooting. She wasn't home when she received texts asking whether she had heard about a DuVal student being shot nearby and then that the girl had died.

"School just started; c'mon," the woman said. "Imagine how her parents feel, see your child leave out the house this morning and you've got to go to the hospital and see your child laying down dead with a gunshot wound?

"Every time you look, it's a gun. It's getting so frustrating," she said.

Barry Stanton, the county's deputy chief administrative officer for public safety, offered condolences to the family and "the students of Prince George's County" on behalf of County Executive Angela D. Alsobrooks (D).

"We are heartbroken, we are frustrated to see what our students in Prince George's County have to go through," Stanton said.

Police were investigating a motive and potential suspects Monday. The crime scene remained active at 6 p.m. Monday, with police photographing the scene. The entrance to the Wood Stream neighborhood in Lanham, a few feet away from DuVal High, was cordoned off with police tape.

O'Lare said the department spared no resources in investigating the shooting. Homicide detectives, crime scene investigators, aviation and K-9 units were at the scene Monday afternoon.

"We are determined to find the suspect who callously, in broad daylight, killed one of our teenagers in our community," O'Lare said.

Future of investigation in Md. unclear

SCHOOLS FROM B1

would release the document to the public.

Shebra Evans, the school board's vice president, also did not respond to questions from The Post. Chris Cram, a spokesman for Montgomery County Public Schools, referred questions to members of the school board, which has purview over the Jackson Lewis investigation.

Lori-Christina Webb, the chief of staff for the school board, did not respond directly to most questions but said in an email, "What I can share at this point is that the Board is processing the report from Jackson Lewis and will share additional information with the community in the coming days."

Beidleman did not respond to a request to comment on the investigation.

Maryland Inspector General for Education Richard Henry said in an email he had not received a copy of Jackson Lewis's report. He has previously said he was waiting for Jackson Lewis's investigation to be finished before deciding if his office would get involved. On Monday, he said there were no further updates on his involvement. Generally, the office does not confirm or deny the existence of an investigation. The Montgomery County inspector general's office said in an email it also hasn't reviewed a copy of the report and has not decided whether it will investigate Beidleman or the school district.

The board's statement concluded, "We are committed to a transparent, thorough, and expeditious process." But outside officials questioned those claims.

Transparency "would mean knowing exactly what the next phase is and knowing if they were taking the opportunity to review [the report] in greater detail because they might need to redact something. If this was truly transparent and meant to be an independent investigation, they wouldn't need to redact anything for legal privilege," said Montgomery County Council member Dawn Luedtke (D-District 7), who called the board's statement "generic and non-substantive."

When Montgomery County Public Schools initially announced that Jackson Lewis would run the investigation, local officials and legal scholars voiced concern about possible bias by the law firm. Jackson Lewis, which specializes in employment law defense and has battled unions, represented the school district in a previous matter. It received $110,674 from the district in 2022 and 2023, according to the district's funding accountability and transparency website, and has defended other school systems in the past. Skeptics wondered if it would seek to shield district officials from accountability.

In an Aug. 22 news conference, Silvestre said, "The board has met with the external investigators and are confident that the team will conduct an independent, unbiased investigation."

None of the approximately three dozen teachers who said that Beidleman bullied, targeted, sexually harassed or retaliated against them have met with Jackson Lewis. Teachers who were contacted by Montgomery County Public Schools said they were confused by the urgency with which the school district tried to schedule their meetings with the law firm in mid-August if the first phase of the investigation was not about their allegations against Beidleman.

The district pushed "a timeline that applied pressure" on educators who had submitted complaints, said a Montgomery County Public Schools employee who previously told The Post that Beidleman bullied and retaliated against her. She didn't understand why the school system "scheduled interviews with people first that did not pertain to the specifics of why Joel was promoted. That time could have been used for that investigation instead of stressing out MCPS employees who also have to get prepared for the beginning of the school year."

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OBITUARIES

NANCY BUIRSKI, 78

Filmmaker embraced civil rights, the arts with empathy

BY EMILY LANGER

Nancy Buirski, a prizewinning documentary filmmaker whose wide-ranging works — exploring the stories of civil rights heroes and protagonists in the history of cinema and ballet — offered intimate portraitals of their subjects and their times, died Aug. 29 at her home in Manhattan. She was 78.

Her sister Judith Cohen confirmed her death and said she did not yet know the cause.

Ms. Buirski devoted her professional life to documenting the world on film, both in still photography and in moving pictures. After beginning her career as an editor at Magnum, the highly regarded photo cooperative, she became a picture editor at the New York Times and later founded the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in Durham, N.C., in 1998.

Ms. Buirski established her own reputation as a filmmaker with the release in 2011 of "The Loving Story," a documentary about Richard and Mildred Loving, the interracial couple at the center of the 1967 U.S. Supreme Court case *Loving v. Virginia* that invalidated state anti-miscegenation laws.



GREY VILLET/ICARUS FILMS

Richard Loving, Mildred Loving and their children were the subjects of Nancy Buirski's 2011 documentary "The Loving Story," about the interracial couple at the center of a 1967 Supreme Court case that legalized their marriage. Buirski later described them as "heroes."

The film, which aired on HBO, received Peabody and Emmy awards and helped inspire the 2016 feature film "Loving" starring Joel Edgerton and Ruth Negga. Ms. Buirski was among that film's producers.

In her documentary, she called upon extensive archival material to assemble a deeply personal portrait of Richard Loving, who was White, and Mildred Loving, who was part African American and part Native American.

"In a rich collection of 16-millimeter film, old news clips and still photographs, the Lovings don't look like two people caught up in a cause, they seem like two people caught up in each other," TV critic Alessandra Stanley wrote in the Times.

Ms. Buirski returned to civil rights history in later documentaries including "The Rape of Recy Taylor" (2017), about an African American woman who was gang-raped by a group of White assailants in Alabama in 1944 and, with help from activists including Rosa Parks, challenged the mores of the Jim Crow South by seeking justice in her case.

Ms. Buirski's 2020 documentary "A Crime on the Bayou" resurrected a 1966 case that originated in Louisiana amid the desegregation of public schools. Gary Duncan, an African American man, witnessed what he believed to be an impending fight between some White students and his two young relatives. He intervened by doing nothing more than touching the arm of one of the White boys, he said, but was charged with battery in a case that ultimately went to the Supreme Court.

Ms. Buirski delved into the cultural history of the United States in films including "Afternoon of a Faun" (2013), about Tanaquil Le Clercq, the majestically talented American ballerina who was paralyzed by polio in 1956, and "By Sidney Lumet" (2015), about the celebrated director of films including "12 Angry Men," "Serpico," "Dog Day Afternoon" and "Network."

Both the Le Clercq and Lumet films were presented on the PBS series American Masters.

Ms. Buirski's most recent film was "Desperate Souls, Dark City and the Legend of Midnight Cowboy" (2022), about "Midnight Cowboy," the 1969 Academy Award-winning drama directed by John Schlesinger and starring Jon Voight and Dustin Hoffman that became a cultural touchstone of the era.



ASTRID STAWIARZ/GETTY IMAGES

Ms. Buirski, seen in 2011, was a prizewinning documentary filmmaker who explored the stories of civil rights heroes, ballerina Tanaquil Le Clercq, film director Sidney Lumet and other subjects.

"She's telling you about the making of the movie, but she's using it as a way into a much bigger set of themes — politics, culture, homophobia," Glenn Frankel, a former Washington Post reporter and the author of the book "Shooting 'Midnight Cowboy,'" said in an interview about Ms. Buirski's work.

For her part, she said she saw "Midnight Cowboy" as an illustration of the power of film.

"One of the reasons I made the movie is I wanted to excavate why people were so touched by it back in the day and continue to be," Ms. Buirski told the Desert Sun of Palm Springs, Calif., earlier this year. What she tried to bring to the documentary, she continued, "was the sense that films that have lasting power are not made in a vacuum. What was it that surrounded that film? What happened in that era that made that film inevitable? What kind of impact did it have on the next era?"

Nancy Florence Cohen — she was one of three daughters, including a twin sister — was born in Manhattan on June 24, 1945. Her father was a paper manufacturer, and her mother worked in various jobs in interior design.

Ms. Buirski grew up in New Rochelle, N.Y., and was a 1967 graduate of Adelphi University in Garden City, N.Y. After her time with Magnum, she spent more than a decade at the Times, including as a picture editor on the international desk.

In an obituary, the Times credited Ms. Buirski with selecting for publication the image that received the 1994 Pulitzer Prize in feature photography. Shot by South African photojournalist Kevin Carter amid famine in Sudan, the image, which ricocheted around the world, showed a starving girl collapsed on the ground en route to a food distribution center as a vulture eyed her menacingly.

Such was the response to the photograph, the Times reported, that the newspaper subsequently printed an editors' note explaining that after the photo was taken, the girl resumed her walk to the food center. The photographer, who shortly thereafter died by suicide, scared away the vulture.

In her own photography work, Ms. Buirski published the 1994 volume "Earth Angels: Migrant Children in America," a collection of images that a Times reviewer placed in the tradition of Depression-era photographer Dorothea Lange.

Ms. Buirski led the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival until 2008. Hoping to direct a film of her own, she settled on the subject for her first work when she read Mildred Loving's obituary that year in the Times.

"They may have been reluctant heroes and they may have been unsung heroes," Ms. Buirski told The Washington Post of the Lovings, "but they are heroes nonetheless."

Ms. Buirski's marriages to Peter Buirski and Kenneth Friedlein ended in divorce. Her sister Judith is her only immediate survivor.

"My films are about justice," Ms. Buirski once told the New York Observer, reflecting on the themes that ran through her work. "My films are also about empathy," she continued. "We come to understand other people's lives even as we gain a deeper understanding about ourselves."

GAYLE HUNNICUTT, 80

Texan actress who thrived in Britain, returned to U.S. for soap opera 'Dallas'

BY HARRISON SMITH

Gayle Hunnicutt, an American actress who shed her Texas accent before building a three-decade career on the British stage and screen, playing glamorous femme fatales and costume-drama heroines while making headlines for her marriages to two very different men — the flamboyant actor David Hemmings and the cerebral journalist Simon Jenkins — died Aug. 31 at a hospital in London. She was 80.

Her death, from an unspecified illness, was confirmed by Jenkins, her former husband.



TERRY FINCHER/FINCHER FILES/POPPERFOTO/GETTY IMAGES

Actress Gayle Hunnicutt in London circa 1980. She was later known for a recurring role in the prime-time soap opera "Dallas."

Ms. Hunnicutt, an auburn-haired Texan from Fort Worth, first gained notice for playing seductive women in 1960s sitcoms like "The Beverly Hillbillies" and "Get Smart," and for portraying a mob-connected television star in the 1969 film "Marlowe," opposite James Garner. When she moved to London that year after her marriage to Hemmings, a British actor known for starring in Michelangelo Antonioni's "Blow-Up," she sought opportunities to demonstrate her range as an actress, beyond the sexpot roles she had been offered in Hollywood.

"In California I was going down the path of being built up on my looks. I feel I was very lucky to escape," she told the Guardian in 1974.

Earlier that year, she had turned down an offer to play the female lead in a blockbuster screen adaptation of "The Count of Monte Cristo," opposite Richard Chamberlain. In its place she took a low-paying part in a stage version of Émile Zola's novel "Thérèse Raquin," aiming to solidify her status as a serious actress. "The day I die," she explained, "I do not wish to be remembered as a lady Texan starlet with a good face."

For years, however, Ms. Hunnicutt was known to British viewers as the woman with "the most luminously beautiful face on television," as Richard Last, a television critic for the Daily Telegraph, once put it. Casting directors sought her out for parts that showcased her statuesque figure, and she was reportedly in line to be the first Bond girl opposite Roger Moore, who was succeeding Sean Connery as 007 in "Live and Let Die" (1973). By one account, she turned down the role because she had recently given birth to her first son. (The part went to Jane Seymour instead.)

Ms. Hunnicutt could be alluring in one role, enigmatic in the next. She delivered acclaimed performances in BBC historical dramas, notably as the enigmatic Charlotte Stant, the ex-mistress of a nobleman, in a 1972 adaptation of Henry James's "The Golden Bowl," and as Tsarina Alexandra, the wife of Nicholas II of Russia, in the 1974 historical saga "Fall of Eagles." She also performed frequently onstage, including as the title character in 1979 productions of "Peter Pan" and Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler," and as authors Mary Shelley and Edith Wharton, whom she portrayed in plays that explored the intersection between each writer's life and art.

Late in her career, Ms. Hunnicutt returned to the United States to appear on the last three seasons of "Dallas," the hit primetime soap opera that ended in 1991. She played an understated Englishwoman — Vanessa Beaumont, a former flame of J.R. Ewing who had secretly borne his child — rather than a native Texan like herself.

By then, she had made herself at home in Britain following a tumultuous first marriage to Hemmings. While he was an emblem of Swinging Sixties London, she was more demure, dismissive of sexual liberation and fond of the conservatism that she found in parts of her adopted country.

"No false fingernails, no false eyelashes, your hair can be mussed up," she remarked. "You'd never get away with that in Fort Worth."

An only child, Virginia Gayle Hunnicutt was born in Fort Worth on Feb. 6, 1943. Her father, an Army colonel, served in the South Pacific during World War II and later oversaw an Army Reserve school in Fort Worth. Her mother was a homemaker.

Ms. Hunnicutt studied theater arts at the University of California at Los Angeles, receiving a bachelor's degree in 1965. She was discovered by a talent scout while performing in a community theater production, and in 1966 she made her film debut with a supporting role in "The Wild Angels," starring Peter Fonda and Nancy Sinatra.

Months later, she met Hemmings at a party at actor Peter Lawford's home on Santa Monica beach. "It was instant combustion," she recalled.

Hemmings was promoting "Blow-Up," in which he played a suave fashion photographer who inadvertently photographs a murder. He would later describe Ms. Hunnicutt and him as "a poor man's Taylor and Burton," referring to the fraught relationship between actors Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton: "It was a Hollywood romance, but it wasn't meant to last."

The couple married in 1968, in a Beverly Hills wedding with singing by the Mamas and the Papas and an orchestra conducted by Henry Mancini. Not long after, Ms. Hunnicutt discovered that her husband was having an affair with Samantha Eggar, one of his co-stars.

"It nearly destroyed me," she said, although the couple stayed together long enough for Ms. Hunnicutt to co-star with Hemmings in "Fragment of Fear" (1970) and to be directed by him in "Running Scared" (1972).

"He was the most charismatic human being I have ever met," she told the Telegraph in 2004, the year after Hemmings's death at 62. "He had an appetite for life that was quite irresistible. I was totally, utterly in love with him. I didn't think I could breathe if he wasn't there."

They divorced in the mid-1970s, and a few years later she married Jenkins, who edited the London Evening Standard and later the Times of London. With him, she became a fixture of the London social scene, hosting parties at marquee buildings like St. James's Palace and Battersea Power Station. "Simon is part of the establishment," she said, "and as his wife, I am too."

They divorced in 2009. Survivors include a son from her first marriage, actor Nolan Hemmings, who appeared in the World War II miniseries "Band of Brothers"; a son from her second marriage, Edward Jenkins; and five grandchildren.

Ms. Hunnicutt's other credits included roles in the horror films "Eye of the Cat" (1969) and "The Legend of Hell House" (1973), as well as in the thriller "Target" (1985), with Gene Hackman and Matt Dillon. She also starred with Jeremy Brett in the 1980 premiere of ITV's "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," as the cunning American singer and actress Irene Adler.

Away from the stage and screen, Ms. Hunnicutt wrote "Health and Beauty in Motherhood" (1984) and edited a selection of love letters, "Dearest Virginia" (2004), that her father had sent to her mother during World War II. She discovered the letters while cleaning out her family's home in Fort Worth and said they offered solace, bringing her closer to her late father and revealing the depth of his commitment to her mother, while she recovered from a years-long illness following a hysterectomy.

"I came to understand my own set of values and code of living through reading them," Ms. Hunnicutt said. "They are not necessarily the norm in the rather exotic, complex worlds I have been part of in my adult life."

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DEATH NOTICE

CANAPARY



HERBERT CARTON CANAPARY
"Herb"

Herbert Carton Canapary died on September 2, 2023.
He is survived by his devoted wife Mary Dolan and their children: Patrick Canapary, Ellen Canapary (Pat Quigley), Ann Canapary, Jennifer Henriksen (Scott); three grandchildren: Emily Henriksen, Ryan Henriksen, and Mary Xuyen Canapary; cousins, nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Alice and Edith and brother Edward Canapary.
Friends may call at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 9000 Warfield Road, Gaithersburg, Maryland on Friday, September 15, 2023.
A visitation/wake will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. followed by a funeral mass at 12:30 p.m.
In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Gaithersburg Community Soup Kitchen (The Lord's Table). https://www.lordstablesoupkitchen.org/

DICKER

LEANE WERNER DICKER

On Monday, September 11, 2023. LEANE WERNER DICKER of Rockville, MD. Beloved wife of Ross Dicker, loving mother of Matthew (Jacqui Rosshandler) Dicker, Meredith and Robert Dicker, dear sister of Joyce Sambursky, cherished grandmother of Riley and Sloane Dicker, daughter of the late Dr. George and Ruth Werner. Funeral service will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 1:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth El, 8215 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD. Interment will be at Temple Israel Riverside Cemetery, Conklin, NY on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to The American Cancer Society or to Hope Connections for Cancer Support. Arrangements entrusted to TORCHINSKY HEBREW FUNERAL HOME, 202-541-1001.

DEATH NOTICE

KAHAN

ELEANOR SUKROW KAHAN

On Sunday, September 10, 2023, Eleanor Sukrow Kahan, of Rockville, MD passed away. Beloved wife of Steven Kahan; devoted mother of Adam (Michelle) Kahan and Erika (Jason) Vassil; loving sister-in-law of Allan (Helene) Kahan and Sherri Greenbaum; cherished grandmother of Ari, Logan and Brody. Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, 1 p.m. at Judean Chapel with interment to follow at Judean Memorial Gardens. Family will be receiving following the burial at the Kahan Residence with Minyan at 7:30 p.m. Shiva will resume on Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. with Minyan at 7:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Alpha Omega Foundation US (aofus.org) or American Cancer Society (cancer.org). Services entrusted to Sagel Bloomfield Danzansky Goldberg Funeral Care.
www.sagelbloomfield.com

MCCLAIN



BARBARA JEAN MCCLAIN (Age 100)

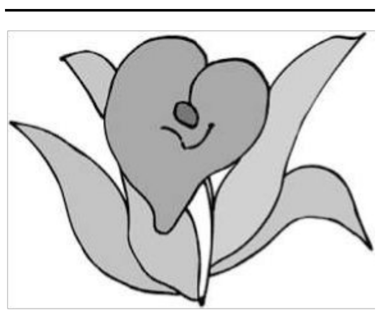
Barbara McClain, wife of the late Col. Wallis E. McClain Sr., was born on September 7, 1922, in Paducah, KY, and died on August 16, 2023, in Ft. Belvoir, VA. She grew up in Paducah, where she attended Tilghman High School and Paducah Junior College. She and Col. McClain were married in 1942. As an Army wife, she lived in several states and two foreign countries. She and Col. McClain moved to Fairfax, VA, in 1967. After raising her family of three sons, Mrs. McClain worked in retail at Hecht's Department Store and then as an assistant manager with Minnesota Fabrics. Her hobbies included sewing, knitting, and needlepoint. She is survived by her three sons, Wallis, Jr., David, and Donald and his wife Deb, and by grandsons William, Michael, and James; granddaughter Lauren; and great grandchildren William and James. She is also survived by her nieces Judith Lynette Binkley and Terris McClain, and nephews Barry, Tommie, and Rollie Brown. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Demaine Funeral Home, Springfield, VA. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on October 19, 2023 at the Old Post Chapel, Ft. Myer, VA, followed by burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

DEATH NOTICE

ROBEY

GEORGE A. ROBEY SR.

The members of the Retired Firefighters Association of Washington, DC regret to announce the passing of George A. Robey, Sr. on September 5, 2023. Brother Robey was appointed on March 31, 1986 to Truck 4 and retired December 5, 2020 as Lieutenant, Truck 4.



DEATH NOTICE

CZERNIK



CAROLA AND BRIGITTA CZERNIK

Carola Czernik
(March 24,2020)

Brigitta Czernik Gruenther
(November 11, 2022)

Funeral Mass and Celebration of Life for beloved sisters on Friday, September 15, 2023 at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, 3305 Glen Carlyn Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041, 10 a.m., Mass 11 a.m., Celebration of Life 1:30 p.m. Interment of Carola's ashes at Columbia Gardens Cemetery, 3411 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201. Brigitta interment of ashes at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.



KRIZAY



STEPHEN JAY KRIZAY
1956 - 2023

Stephen Jay Krizay of Leesburg, Virginia, everybody's friend, passed away on Sunday September 3, 2023. He left behind his wife and love of his life Stephenie Krizay, children Brynne Melissa Krizay, Kyle Stephen Krizay, Ashley Edwards, and Tyler Edwards (Rosemary), siblings Judith Grumbly (Tom), Thomas Krizay (Pam), Barbara Krizay Barlow (George), his latest delight, grandson Ashton Gale Heyer, and nieces and nephews Erin, Kate, Maureen, Natalie, and Paul, and his beloved dog Daisy. All were buoyed by Steve's love of life and sweet nature.
Steve was born on February 21, 1956, to Margaret and Edward Krizay. After Steve graduated from Langley High School in McLean, Virginia, in 1974, he went on to study at James Madison University, graduating in 1978 with a degree in Accounting. After earning his CPA, he worked as an accountant and financial officer at a variety of firms. He retired as Controller from the global company GHD in 2018.
A lifelong sports fan, he played rugby in high school and college, and after emotionally welcoming baseball back to Washington, followed the Nationals with a passion.
Steve loved baseball, a beach anywhere he could find one, travel, music, and mostly celebrating life to the fullest with his family and many dear friends. Steve described favorite events in his life as magical, which is how we all felt about the many events in life we shared with him.
A memorial is being held with family and close friends. In lieu of flowers, Steve would have wanted donations to be sent to the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (bcan.org) or Life With Cancer (lifewithcancer.org).

SIMON

MATTHEW HOFFER SIMON (Age 91) RABBI

Rabbi Matthew Hoffer Simon of North Bethesda, Maryland, died after a short illness on September 10, 2023/24 Ellul 5783, at the age of 91. Born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania on August 6, 1932, he was the eldest child of Rabbi Ralph Simon and Kelsey Hoffer Simon. Rabbi Simon was the Senior Rabbi of B'nai Israel Congregation from 1973 until his retirement in 2002 – a tenure that included rebuilding and moving the congregation from Washington, DC to its current location in Rockville, Maryland. He was the husband for 65 years of Dr. Sara Rubinow Simon. Rabbi and Dr. Simon remained residents of the local area and enjoyed their retirement in North Bethesda, Rehoboth Beach, Palm Springs, and Jerusalem.

Rabbi Simon held pulpit positions at Temple Ramah (now Temple Ramat Zion) in Northridge, California, and Valley Beth Shalom, in Encino, California, and he enjoyed providing spiritual and social services to Jewish communities on most of the continents throughout his life. Rabbi Simon's enduring and persistent commitment to community-building and Tikkun Olam (Fixing the World) included leadership roles around the world in civil and human rights, social and religious justice, interfaith relations, and with his wife Dr. Simon the creation of programs and infrastructure for the special needs community. Rabbi Simon enjoyed the status of being Camper #1 of Camp Ramah, as his father was the founder of the first overnight camp nationally affiliated with the Conservative movement. Rabbi Simon attended the University of Chicago and California State University, Northridge. He earned a Master of Political Science, a M.H.L. in Hebrew Literature, and a D.H.L. He was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1958, which awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree in 1984. Following his ordination, he served as a U.S. Navy Chaplain in Japan, and retired from the Navy as a Captain after 28 years of Naval reserve service, continuing to provide chaplaincy at the Walter Reed Military Medical Center in Bethesda until his 90th year.

He was the Director of the United Jewish Appeal in Jerusalem. He was a founding member of Mercaz, the Zionist Movement of Conservative Judaism, and was its president; he was also president of Masorti, its international synagogue organization. Rabbi Simon had been Chairman of the Joint Retirement Board for Conservative Judaism three times, and a board member for over forty years. Twice he was the National Chairman of the Rabbinic Cabinet of the United Jewish Appeal, and was the Honorary President of the Rabbinic Cabinet of The Jewish Federations of North America, and was Chairman for five years of its National Funding Councils. He was Chairman of the Jewish Welfare Board's Jewish Chaplains Council. He was a past National President of ZBT Fraternity, and a past President of the Washington Board of Rabbis.

Rabbi Simon was predeceased by his son Rabbi Joshua Reuveni Simon, and will be missed by his beloved wife of 65 years, Sara; his surviving children Ethan and Betsy (Jeff) and his daughters in law Sandy Katz and Dr. Miriam Bensimhon (Danny); and his loving grandchildren Molly, Ezekiel (Joni), Maggie, Dylan, Marley, and Charles Buddy; as well as his brother Carmi and his sister Tamar Hoffs (Josh). The funeral will be graveside on Wednesday in New York City, and Shiva will be observed at B'nai Israel Congregation in Rockville before evening services on Thursday. Contributions in his memory can be made to the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and B'nai Israel Congregation.

Services entrusted to Sagel Bloomfield Danzansky Goldberg Funeral Care.
www.sagelbloomfield.com

DEATH NOTICE

WALLER



RUTH B. WALLER

Ruth B. Waller of Upper Marlboro, MD departed this life with family by her side on August 31, 2023. She is survived by her son Antonio D. Waller, Sr., grandson Antonio D. Waller, Jr., great-granddaughter Alaisha Jade Diggs and sisters Naomi Richburg and Sarah B. Carmon. Services will be held at Marshall March Funeral Home of Maryland, 4308 Suitland Road, Suitland, Maryland 20746 on Friday, September 15, 2023, viewing 10 a.m. following the service at 11 a.m. Interment Harmony Memorial Cemetery.

DEATH NOTICE | DEATH NOTICE

SHAW



REITA MARIE SHAW
(Age 86)

Reita Marie Shaw passed away on Friday, September 8, 2023, at her residence surrounded by family. She was born December 25, 1936, in Cleveland, Ohio to the late Harry Cydzik and Kathren Gelmas Cydzik. Reita retired from AT&T where she negotiated federal contracts, paving the way for women's rights in the workforce. She earned her master's degree from George Washington University. She was a lifelong resident of Northern Virginia. Reita spent over 20 years with friends traveling the world with the Shillelagh Travel Club. She is survived by her first husband John "Jack" Joseph Condon of 23 years and the father of her children. Son, John Patrick Condon. Son, Christopher Jerome Condon, his wife Trish, their children, Heather and Blair, and their one grandchild. Son, Terrence Michael Condon, his wife Tina, their children, Tanya, Tara, Joseph, Joslyn, John, Terrence, Tyler, and their 17 grandchildren. One sister, Kathleen Martin, her husband Wayne, their daughter, Kimberly, and a host of extended family and friends. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband of nineteen amazing years, Henry "Bud" I. Shaw, Jr. who was a Marine Corps First Chief Historian and a founding member of the Marine Corps Historical Foundation; and one brother, Gerome Cydzik. Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Bud and Reita Shaw's name to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation at https://www.marineheritage.org/makedonation.html or 1775 Semper Fidelis Way, Triangle, VA 22172. An online guestbook and tribute wall are available at www.foundandsons.com. Found and Sons Funeral Chapel of Culpeper is serving the family.
www.foundandsons.com

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Now death notices on washingtonpost.com/obituaries allow you to express your sympathy with greater ease. Visit today.
The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICES
MONDAY- FRIDAY 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SATURDAY-SUNDAY 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To place a notice, call:
202-334-4122
800-627-1150 ext 4-4122
EMAIL:
deathnotices@washpost.com

Email and faxes MUST include name, home address & home phone # of the responsible billing party.
Email deadline - 3 p.m. daily
Phone-In deadline
4 p.m. M-F
3 p.m. Sa-Su

CURRENT 2023 RATES:
(PER DAY)

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Black & White
1" - $155 (text only)
2" - $355 (text only)
3" - $505
4" - $555
5" - $700

SUNDAY
Black & White
1"- $185 (text only)
2" - $390 (text only)
3" - $560
4" - $590
5" - $765

6"+ for ALL Black & White notices
$155 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$185 each additional inch Sunday

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Color
3" - $650
4" - $700
5" - $855

SUNDAY
Color
3" - $685
4" - $785
5" - $955

6"+ for ALL color notices
$260 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$290 each additional inch Sunday

Notices with photos begin at 3"
(All photos add 2" to your notice.)

ALL NOTICES MUST BE PREPAID

MEMORIAL PLAQUES:
All notices over 2" include complimentary memorial plaque

Additional plaques start at $26 each and may be ordered.

All Paid Death Notices appear on our website through www.legacy.com

LEGACY.COM
Included in all death notices
Optional for In Memoriams

PLEASE NOTE:

Notices must be placed via phone or email. Photos must be emailed. You can no longer place notices, drop off photos and make payment in person. Payment must be made via phone with debit/credit card.

The Washington Post

THE WEATHER

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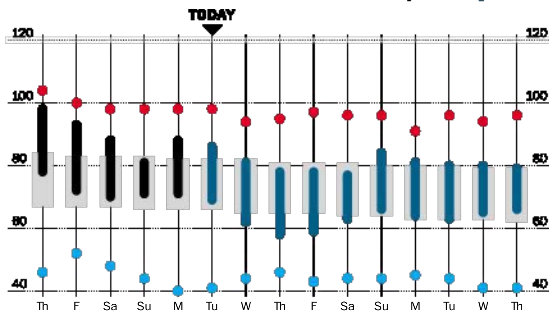
Humid, with storms likely late

Any early patchy fog should burn off quickly. Skies will be partly sunny, with brightest times probably during the morning hours. Humid mid- to late-afternoon high temperatures will top out in the mid- to upper 80s just as rain chances also start to increase. A few storms could turn strong. The threat for flooding downpours does begin to increase by late afternoon. Southerly breezes may gust around 15 mph. Overnight thunderstorms, showers and even flooding downpours are possible.

Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
T-storm, humid	T-storm	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Partly sunny
86° 69°	81° 62°	78° 58°	78° 59°	77° 63°	84° 66°
FEELS*: **90°**	FEELS: **83°**	FEELS: **79°**	FEELS: **78°**	FEELS: **77°**	FEELS: **88°**
CHNCE PRECIP: **40%**	P: **80%**	P: **5%**	P: **5%**	P: **5%**	P: **10%**
WIND: **SW 6–12 mph**	W: **NW 6–12 mph**	W: **NNE 7–14 mph**	W: **NNE 8–16 mph**	W: **NNW 7–14 mph**	W: **WNW 4–8 mph**
HUMIDITY: **Very High**	H: **High**	H: **Low**	H: **Low**	H: **Low**	H: **Moderate**

OFFICIAL RECORD

Temperatures

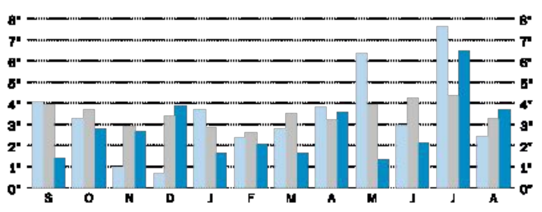


Statistics through 5 p.m. Monday

	National	Dulles	BWI
High	**88°** 5:00 p.m.	**88°** 3:33 p.m.	**86°** 1:33 p.m.
Low	**71°** 6:00 a.m.	**71°** 5:00 a.m.	**71°** 7:00 a.m.
Normal	82°/66°	81°/60°	82°/61°
Record high	98° 1983	99° 1983	100° 1983
Record low	40° 1917	40° 1976	43° 1917

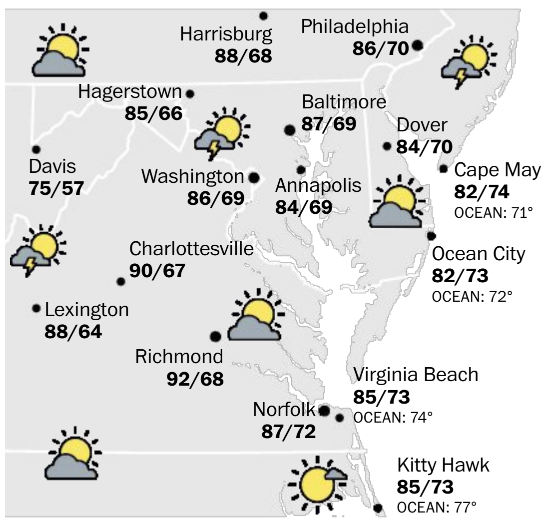
Difference from 30–yr. avg. (National): this month: **+5.6°** yr. to date: **+2.0°**

Precipitation



	National	Dulles	BWI
Past 24 hours	0.04"	1.45"	1.00"
Total this month	1.30"	2.69"	2.78"
Normal	1.41"	1.35"	1.54"
Total this year	23.79"	21.91"	27.68"
Normal	29.32"	30.57"	31.32"

REGION



Pollen: Low

Grass	Low
Trees	Low
Weeds	Low
Mold	Low

Air Quality: Moderate
Dominant cause: Ozone

UV: Moderate
4 out of 11+

Blue Ridge: Today, partly sunny; a thunderstorm this afternoon; however, dry in northern parts. High 71 to 75. Winds southwest 6–12 mph.

Atlantic beaches: Today, humid, partly sunny. High 82 to 87. Winds south 6–12 mph. Tonight, mostly cloudy, humid. A shower in spots early, then a couple of thunderstorms in the north; a thundershower in central parts. Low 71 to 75. Winds south 6–12 mph.

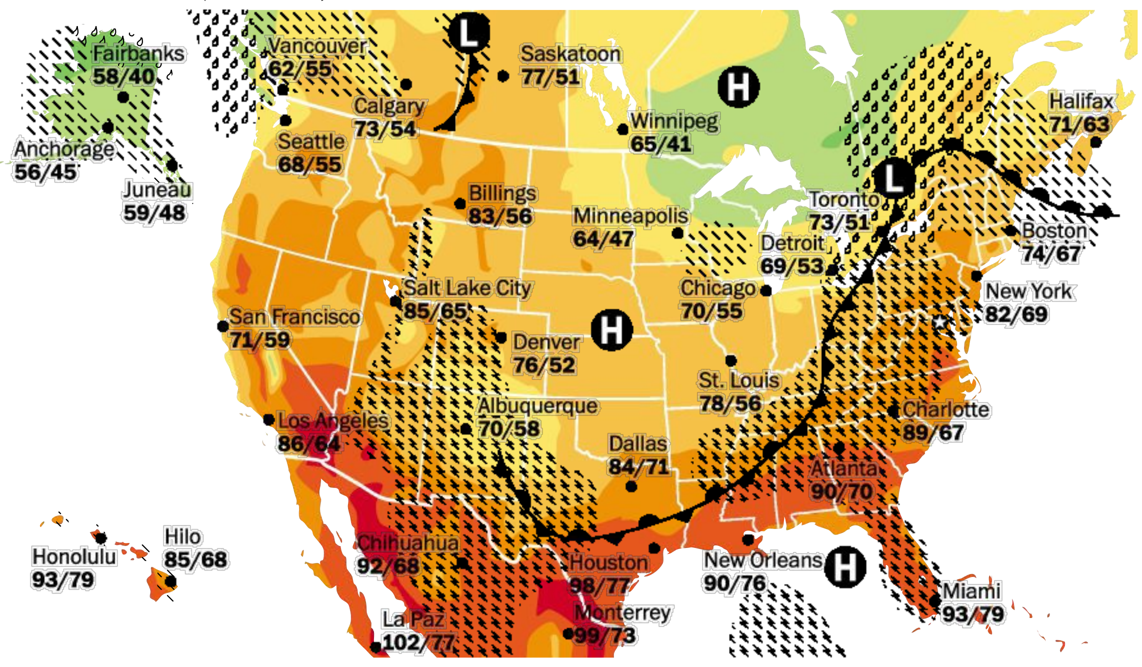
Waterways: *Upper Potomac River*: Today, partly sunny. Wind south–southwest 4–8 knots. Waves less than a foot. Visibility unrestricted. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay*: Today, partly sunny. Wind southeast 4–8 knots. Waves 0–1 foot on the Lower Potomac; 1–2 feet on the Chesapeake Bay.• *River Stages*: The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.80 feet today, falling to 2.60 Wednesday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (High tides in **Bold**)

Washington	1:25 a.m.	**7:07 a.m.**	2:09 p.m.	**7:39 p.m.**
Annapolis	**4:32 a.m.**	10:49 a.m.	**4:20 p.m.**	10:21 p.m.
Ocean City	12:47 a.m.	**6:25 a.m.**	12:31 p.m.	**6:54 p.m.**
Norfolk	2:38 a.m.	**8:42 a.m.**	2:37 p.m.	**8:57 p.m.**
Point Lookout	**12:24 a.m.**	7:07 a.m.	**12:30 p.m.**	6:25 p.m.

NATION

Weather map features for noon today.



T-storms · Rain · Showers · Snow · Flurries · Ice · Cold Front · Warm Front · Stationary Front

<-10 · -0s · 0s · 10s · 20s · 30s · 40s · 50s · 60s · 70s · 80s · 90s · 100s · 110+

Yesterday's National
High: Phoenix, AZ **105°**
Low: Burgess Junction, WY **28°**
for the 48 contiguous states

World
High: Omidiyeh, Iran **122°**
Low: Eureka, Canada **11°**
excludes Antarctica

NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	81/66/pc	71/53/t
Albuquerque	70/58/t	73/58/t
Anchorage	56/45/sh	57/43/c
Atlanta	90/70/t	85/68/t
Austin	97/72/c	94/71/pc
Baltimore	87/69/t	79/61/t
Billings, MT	83/56/pc	81/55/s
Birmingham	92/69/pc	85/68/c
Bismarck, ND	70/49/s	78/55/pc
Boise	88/58/s	82/55/s
Boston	74/67/c	75/63/t
Buffalo	71/56/t	64/52/c
Burlington, VT	78/66/c	72/56/t
Charleston, SC	90/73/sh	88/72/t
Charleston, WV	80/63/t	72/50/c
Charlotte	89/67/t	84/62/t
Cheyenne, WY	73/45/pc	76/49/t
Chicago	70/55/pc	66/51/sh
Cincinnati	72/55/sh	74/50/c
Cleveland	69/57/sh	65/52/c
Dallas	84/71/t	86/69/t
Denver	76/52/c	77/51/t
Des Moines	74/52/pc	75/51/s
Detroit	69/53/sh	63/48/pc
El Paso	87/67/t	90/67/t
Fairbanks, AK	58/40/pc	59/38/pc
Fargo, ND	67/43/s	73/55/pc
Hartford, CT	81/66/pc	73/56/t
Honolulu	93/79/pc	92/79/sh
Houston	98/77/pc	95/75/t
Indianapolis	73/52/sh	73/50/pc
Jackson, MS	95/72/pc	87/72/t
Jacksonville, FL	91/71/t	90/70/t
Kansas City, MO	75/52/pc	79/53/s
Las Vegas	93/75/pc	93/74/s
Little Rock	80/68/sh	84/62/pc
Los Angeles	86/64/s	80/65/pc
Louisville	75/60/sh	76/54/pc
Memphis	78/65/sh	82/63/pc
Miami	93/79/t	92/79/t
Milwaukee	67/55/pc	63/53/pc
Minneapolis	64/47/sh	70/56/s
Nashville	78/63/sh	81/57/c
New Orleans	90/76/pc	90/77/t
New York City	82/69/pc	73/60/t
Norfolk	87/72/s	81/70/t
Oklahoma City	74/61/c	78/64/c
Omaha	78/52/pc	79/53/s
Orlando	92/76/t	93/74/t
Philadelphia	86/70/t	78/61/t
Phoenix	97/81/t	100/80/s
Pittsburgh	76/59/t	69/50/c
Portland, ME	71/64/sh	72/61/t
Portland, OR	77/60/pc	78/56/pc
Providence, RI	77/66/pc	78/61/t
Raleigh, NC	92/69/s	85/63/t
Reno, NV	85/56/pc	86/55/s
Richmond	92/68/pc	81/62/t
Sacramento	87/58/s	91/59/s
St. Louis	78/56/sh	77/57/s
St. Thomas, VI	93/82/pc	94/82/pc
Salt Lake City	85/65/c	81/59/t
San Diego	77/67/pc	73/66/pc
San Francisco	71/59/pc	74/58/pc
San Juan, PR	94/81/t	96/82/pc
Seattle	68/55/sh	70/51/pc
Spokane, WA	74/54/pc	75/55/pc
Syracuse	81/63/t	70/54/t
Tampa	91/77/t	92/78/s
Wichita	78/55/pc	79/60/pc

WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Addis Ababa	70/57/sh	69/58/sh
Amsterdam	75/60/c	68/49/pc
Athens	85/66/s	87/66/s
Auckland	61/49/r	60/52/pc
Baghdad	108/79/pc	112/84/pc
Bangkok	92/81/t	90/80/t
Beijing	83/59/pc	81/61/pc
Berlin	87/63/s	69/48/r
Bogota	73/46/sh	71/49/pc
Brussels	75/61/t	68/50/pc
Buenos Aires	63/51/c	62/49/c
Cairo	88/79/pc	90/75/pc
Caracas	83/66/t	82/66/t
Copenhagen	72/58/c	66/50/pc
Dakar	91/79/t	93/81/pc
Dublin	62/44/pc	64/54/pc
Edinburgh	63/46/pc	61/53/pc
Frankfurt	86/63/pc	74/53/sh
Geneva	83/62/pc	71/58/sh
Ham., Bermuda	88/79/sh	87/79/c
Helsinki	72/60/pc	67/50/sh
Ho Chi Minh City	90/77/t	89/77/r
Hong Kong	88/80/sh	89/80/c
Islamabad	97/78/s	98/78/s
Istanbul	81/66/s	82/65/s
Jerusalem	89/69/s	80/64/pc
Johannesburg	64/38/pc	66/42/s
Kabul	93/61/s	92/66/s
Kingston, Jam.	96/84/t	95/83/t
Kolkata	92/82/sh	91/81/t
Kyiv	79/53/pc	81/57/s
Lagos	87/77/r	85/76/t
Lima	73/67/c	73/68/pc
Lisbon	79/63/sh	84/65/s
London	72/57/sh	70/55/c
Madrid	79/60/s	83/62/s
Manila	88/78/r	88/79/r
Mexico City	81/55/s	82/56/s
Montreal	74/64/t	69/52/c
Moscow	66/47/pc	67/48/c
Mumbai	92/82/c	90/81/sh
Nairobi	81/60/t	77/57/t
New Delhi	94/80/t	93/81/pc
Oslo	72/47/pc	66/44/s
Ottawa	72/57/t	65/50/c
Paris	71/60/t	74/58/c
Prague	85/62/pc	76/53/t
Rio de Janeiro	85/72/s	86/74/s
Riyadh	111/85/pc	112/87/pc
Rome	84/63/pc	83/66/pc
San Salvador	91/71/t	90/70/t
Santiago	60/37/s	62/44/pc
Sarajevo	91/52/s	87/58/pc
Seoul	89/70/pc	80/66/r
Shanghai	88/75/pc	89/76/r
Singapore	89/81/sh	90/80/t
Stockholm	69/53/c	59/41/sh
Sydney	69/52/c	74/52/s
Taipei City	97/75/pc	97/76/pc
Tehran	94/74/s	94/72/s
Tokyo	88/76/s	90/78/s
Toronto	73/51/r	65/49/c
Vienna	86/62/pc	83/62/pc
Warsaw	85/58/c	85/60/c

Key: **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **r**-rain, **sh**- showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sources: **AccuWeather.com**; US Army Centralized Allergen Extract Lab (pollen data); airnow.gov (air quality data); National Weather Service

* AccuWeather's **RealFeel Temperature®** combines over a dozen factors for an accurate measure of how the conditions really "feel."

Moon Phases

Sep 14	Sep 22	Sep 29	Oct 6
New	First Quarter	Full	Last Quarter

Solar system

	Rise	Set
Sun	6:46 a.m.	7:22 p.m.
Moon	4:12 a.m.	6:39 p.m.
Venus	4:00 a.m.	5:20 p.m.
Mars	8:30 a.m.	8:13 p.m.
Jupiter	9:43 p.m.	11:31 a.m.
Saturn	6:42 p.m.	5:28 a.m.



*Offer valid on 3 Day Blinds brand products only, excluding shutters and special orders. Buy 1 qualifying window covering and receive the 2nd qualifying window covering of equal or lesser value at 50% off! Offer excludes installation, sales tax, shipping and handling. Not valid on previous purchases or with any other offer or discount. **Offer Code BGXB. Expires 12/31/23.** State Contractor and Home Improvement Licenses: Arizona 321056. California 1005986. Connecticut HIC.0644950. New Jersey 13VH09390200. Oregon 209181. Pennsylvania PA107656. Tennessee 10020. Washington 3DAYBDB842KS. County Licenses: Nassau County, NY H01073101. Rockland County, NY H-12401-34-00-00. Licensed through Great Windows Services, LLC: Virginia 2705172678. West Virginia WV061238. Various City Licenses Available Upon Request. © 2022 3 Day Blinds LLC.

The Washington Post
Style

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 EZ RE C



NORA WILLIAMS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Tim Scott's girlfriend

The unmarried Republican presidential candidate doesn't like talking about his new relationship very much. But he is talking about it.

BY BEN TERRIS

Sen. Tim Scott, a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, is unmarried, but does that even matter to voters?

In June, as Sen. Tim Scott (R-S.C.) began to get a little momentum in the presidential primary, a person working on behalf of one of Scott's Republican opponents messaged me, asking to chat. ¶ "Have you seen the video," he asked over the phone, conspiratorially, "where he says he has a girlfriend?" ¶ The video in question was from a May event organized by the news website Axios, where the interviewer asked the South Carolina senator about the possibility of becoming the first bachelor president since the 19th century. "I probably have more time, more energy and more latitude to do the job," he replies. And then the senator adds — quickly, as an aside: "My girlfriend wants to see me when I come home." ¶ The Republican operative who called me wasn't sure said girlfriend existed. He suggested I look into it. He followed up on our conversation with an email that included a dossier of Scott's known personal relationships. "No fingerprints," he said. ¶ Scott's romantic endeavors aren't a scandal so much as they are a mystery. At 57, he's never been married and rarely talks about girlfriends past or present.

SEE SCOTT ON C2

Style Starting today, the Style section is pleased to share our revitalized presence on The Washington Post's website and app — *washingtonpost.com/style*. Launched in print in 1969, Style continues to cover culture, the arts, politics, the media and fashion with personality and perception. Print readers will still get Style every day along with its usual features, but we're excited to welcome you to our new digital digs, including our just-launched newsletter, **Style Memo**, which you can sign up to receive at *wapo.st/StyleMemo*.

Louis C.K.'s accusers given voice in film

BY JADA YUAN

TORONTO — Back in November 2017, when five women accused Louis C.K. of sexual misconduct in the New York Times, he was one of the biggest comedians in the world, the beloved star of an Emmy-winning show about being a divorced dad whose material often concentrated on the gross behavior of men that women have to put up with.

The pushback from his fans was often that the women, most of whom were comedians, simply weren't funny. So what if they'd accused him of masturbating in front of them or while on the phone with them? Missed career opportunities because they didn't want to be in the room with him, or because they feared recrimination from his powerful manager, Dave Becky (who no longer works with C.K. and who has apologized for his actions that were "perceived as a threat to cover up sexual misconduct"), were immaterial.

A new documentary, "Sorry/Not Sorry" — which is produced by the Times and which premiered late Sunday night at the Toronto International Film Festival — aims to dispel that, simply by letting the women speak. Each has a different view, a different scale by which they're measuring the offenses perpetrated against them. "We wanted to show

SEE LOUIS C.K. ON C8

Model's book: Incisive look at surgeries

BY RACHEL TASHJIAN

The history of fashion photography is one of power dynamics: a push and pull of a photographer's imagination and a model's desire to complement it. The photographer manipulates the model and vice versa — melding into an image of beauty, ambiguity, aspiration and curiosity at the foundation of how clothes reflect the values of our times.

The 31-year-old model Paloma Elsesser has disrupted that structure. One of the most in-demand models of her generation — a bona fide millennial supermodel — she describes herself as "an agitator." Walking for brands including Versace, Michael Kors and Eckhaus Latta, she is plus size and mixed race, and her extraordinary appearance has challenged the fashion world's attachment to the idealized woman.

Remarkably open about her body and a model's role in the construction of beauty standards, she challenges the assumption that the very business of modeling is to be seen, not heard.

"I have agitated what was once the standard — even what was once the standard for plus-size models," she said, adding that plus-size models were typically required to be "bombshell and commercial." Still, she said, "there's just

SEE ELSESSER ON C4

TV REVIEW

Being Black in a White workplace

BY BETHONIE BUTLER

Before "The Other Black Girl" had even hit bookshelves in 2021, Hulu had already snapped up the rights to bring Zakiya Dalila Harris's fictional thriller to the small screen. Praised as a timely reckoning of the largely White publishing industry, "The Other Black Girl" was touted as an heir to "The Devil Wears Prada" and Jordan Peele's "Get Out." Two years later, Hulu's adaptation has arrived, keeping the spirit of Harris's debut novel — and the well-deserved buzz around it — firmly intact.

The show introduces Nella Rogers (Sinclair Daniel), an ambitious editorial assistant at the fictional Wagner Books, where she is the only Black staffer. We quickly learn that the publishing house has only ever had one Black editor in its decades-long history. Taking in the drab executive portraits that line Wagner's lobby, Nella's eyes inevitably drift to the only Black face on the wall: Kendra Rae Phillips.

Kendra Rae looms large as the editor who championed and nurtured Nella's favorite book, "Burning Heart." Paradoxically, the groundbreaking 1983 novel —

SEE TV REVIEW ON C5



PHOTOS BY DEMETRIUS FREEMAN/THE WASHINGTON POST

In the GOP race, is Scott's single status an issue?

SCOTT FROM **C1**

Late last year, as Scott was ramping up his run for president, I asked Jennifer DeCasper, his close friend and campaign manager, about the status of his dating life. "It's nonexistent," she said.

Now, Scott was suggesting otherwise. And the timing of that revelation seemed a bit convenient.

"He has staked so much on his personal story, character and faith," said the operative, who spoke to me on the condition of anonymity because, well, that's how people kick dirt around in this business. "He's running as America's pastor, so to speak, as he courts evangelicals in Iowa, and I think a lot of folks may wonder about his lack of a family."

It seemed like a not-terribly-original attempt to stir up gossip among conservative voters about how an unmarried Republican candidate might be weird about women, or to raise questions about his sexuality within the party's stubbornly homophobic factions. (And let's just get this out of the way: This is not a *wink-wink* story that uses "single" in place of "gay." Despite the retrograde assumptions people still like to make about wifeless men of a certain age, there really is nothing to suggest that Scott is anything other than a confirmed bachelor in the most literal sense of the phrase.)

I wasn't interested in laundering innuendos for this Republican operative. At the same time, the whole exchange left me intrigued about how voter interest (or lack thereof) in Scott's love life (or lack thereof) might illuminate the politics of marriage, family and masculinity in today's GOP. Donald Trump scrambled the values of the "family values" party to such a degree that the base kept loving him despite the "locker-room talk" about grabbing women and the allegation — which Trump denies — that he had cheated on his third wife with a porn star.

And yet, for all the conventional wisdom that went out the door when Trump walked in, a long-held belief persists: that the absence of a wife and kids would make voters uneasy, especially the kind who vote in Republican primaries. Was that still true?

There is a legitimate public interest in the partner of any would-be president. A first lady in waiting is typically a close confidante whose values reflect on, and influence, a potential leader of the free world. If Scott and his mystery woman were still in the get-to-know-you phase, voters might feel the right to get to know her, too. Plus, a new relationship can be strange to navigate under ordinary circumstances, so what's it like when one of the people is *running for president*?

I decided that, yes, I would try to figure out whether Tim Scott has a girlfriend.

But I would also investigate a deeper question: Does anybody care?

On a Tuesday morning in mid-August, Scott sat on an outdoor stage at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, discussing his thoughts on policies that allow parents to direct public funds to private schools (he's for it) and China "spying on our kids" via TikTok (he's against). While he spoke, DeCasper, his campaign manager, stood at the back of the crowd in a campaign T-shirt.

"Do you work for Tim Scott?" asked an 88-year-old man in a short-sleeved checkered button-up and a National Rifle Association cap.

The man was Max Hagen, a self-described "Fairaholic" who claimed to have shaken every president's hand since Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"How come he doesn't bring his wife and kids with him like all the other candidates do?" Hagen asked.

"Well," DeCasper said, "that's because he's single."

"He's single?"

"He has a very lovely girlfriend."

"How come he doesn't bring her around?"

Frankly, the whole interaction was a bit on-the-nose. I had come to Iowa to try to get an idea of what people thought of his being a bachelor. DeCasper, who previously served as Scott's chief of staff, had told me last year that, yes, there were times in his career when Scott had fretted about "the optics" of not having a spouse. More recently, however, she had told her boss not to worry about it. "Honey, it's two-thousand-whatever, you're fine," she recalled saying to Scott. She had told me something similar last fall: "That's old-school," she'd said about needing a spouse to run for president. "We don't operate that way anymore."

It's true that remaining single deep into adulthood is not as unusual as it used to be. In 1980, only 6 percent of 40-year-olds had never been married, according to Pew Research; in 2021, it was 25 percent. In politics, however, a family tableau remains core to "the optics." The Republican primary field includes a conservative variety pack of Wife Guys — such as Ron DeSantis, who reportedly changed the way he pronounced his last name to the way his wife, Casey, preferred saying it, and Mike Pence, who reportedly won't eat alone with a woman unless his wife, Karen, is also present. And although there have been unmarried candidates for president over the years — including the other Republican senator from South Carolina, Lindsey O. Graham, in 2015 — you would have to go all the way back to Grover Cleveland, in 1884, to find a bachelor who won. (Cleveland married two years later.) Before that, there was James Buchanan, who stayed single after winning in 1856. And yeah, it was a thing.





Sen. Tim Scott (R-S.C.), pictured during a campaign visit to the Iowa State Fair, is an unmarried candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, but that shouldn't be an issue with voters, campaign manager Jennifer DeCasper said. "That's old-school," she'd said of needing a spouse to run for president. "We don't operate that way anymore."

"An Old Bachelor is at most but a half man," wrote the New York Evening Post in an editorial about Buchanan. "How can such a person make more than a half-President?"

Fast-forward to two-thousand-whatever. Despite an evolving understanding of gender — or, more likely, because of it — Republicans have made defining "masculinity" a part of their political playbook. This includes promoting some pretty old-school ideas about marriage.

"Men are meant to be husbands, to form the virtues of a husband in their souls," Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) wrote in his book "Manhood."

Before Trump, when Tim Miller was working in opposition research on the Republican side, finding a sex scandal used to be an effective way to topple an opponent. It may say something about our current political moment that Scott's opponents might see an opportunity to damage him with a sex*less* scandal.

"What might be salient with Republican voters is not that he isn't a perfect family man," Miller told me, "but that he might not have the macho womanizing strength of the MAGA god-king."

Scott's current mission is to impress a particular subset of Republicans: the ones who will be participating in the Iowa caucuses early next year. What do *they* think of the idea of an unmarried, childless commander in chief?

"I think 10 or 20 years ago, people had a kind of romance with the first family," said Bob Vander Plaats, the head of the Family Leader, a social conservative organization in Iowa. "But I think our country is at the point where being married isn't the top qualifier. It probably doesn't make the Top 50."

Scott's unmarriedness isn't the only thing that distinguishes him from other Republicans who are trying to rise in the party. He is not a perpetually aggrieved, rhetorically aggressive culture-warrior type. He's also a Black man who has spoken out against whitewashing America's racial history and has experienced being stopped by the police frequently for offenses such as, as he put it in 2016, "driving a new car in the wrong neighborhood."

At the same time, Scott does not believe there is systemic racism in America today, and lately he has been talking a lot about "backing the blue," locking up violent criminals, securing the southern border and implementing a federal ban on abortions after the 15th week of a pregnancy, "at a minimum."

When I asked Steve Deace, a conservative talk-show host from Iowa, about how Scott's marital status plays into everything, Deace predicted that Republican voters aren't going to evaluate the candidate on that factor alone — but that it could work against him if he doesn't measure up in other ways.

"In the end, someone who is unmarried, hasn't been part of a meaningful conservative fight and was on the wrong side of virtually every flash point in the last cycle just won't pass muster," he said. "If he were polling in double digits in November, there would be a super PAC running ads in Iowa pointing this stuff out." (Scott is polling at 9 percent in the state, per an August poll by the respected Iowa pollster J. Ann Selzer.)

For now, many of the Republicans checking out Scott at the Iowa fair didn't really seem to *specifically* care that Scott was single.

"What matters to me is that he's in favor of putting the family unit back together," said Brian Heck, 60. "I'd be more worried about him having a bunch of illegitimate kids than having no kids."

"I wouldn't want someone to bring their children to the White House. That's no place for them," said Connie Hoksbergen, 57.

"I think it will just be less distracting," said Greg Pollak, a pastor from Altoona, noting the drama that has lately swirled around presidential offspring. "It seems like the family have been a problem these past several years. I could even see it being an advantage."



NORA WILLIAMS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Scott's parents didn't have a marriage worth aspiring to. In his memoir, "America: A Redemption Story," Scott writes that his father was a mercurial man who suffered mental trauma while serving in Vietnam, and whose drinking and tirades drove his mother — along with Scott and his older brother — out of the house.

As a teenager, Scott found a father figure in a man named John Moniz, the owner of a Chick-fil-A franchise, who mentored Scott and taught him about conservative values. Scott was a charmer, even back then, according to Brian Moniz, John's son and Scott's friend since childhood. Scott and the younger Moniz used to spend a lot of time hanging around the mall and flirting with girls.

"He's always had a way with the ladies," Moniz said.

I've seen Scott flirt. In was 2012, and we were having lunch at Clyde's in downtown Washington. A waitress came up and put her hand on his freshly shaved (and perspiring) head.

"I think you're hot," she told him. "I can feel your heat from over here."

"Most people say I'm hot," Scott said. "I agree."

A few days after that, I asked Scott whether he was still a virgin.

The question wasn't quite as prurient as it might sound. I had been assigned to write an article about Scott, then a freshman member of Congress, for National Journal. In my research, I'd found a 1995 interview he'd done with the Charleston Post and Courier in which he'd discussed speaking to students about the importance of abstinence until marriage. "Talking to teens and college students about sexual purity is a hot ticket for me because I'm single," Scott, then a 30-year-old city councilman, had told the paper. "I know what it means to struggle on the issue of sex. But it's worth the wait." Seventeen years later, he was still unmarried, and sex education was a political issue, so it seemed fair to ask whether the congressman — who, according to the same article, once drove a Nissan with a bumper sticker that said "True Love Waits" — practiced what he preached.

"Not as well as I did then," he said, adding that he still believed sex before marriage was a "sin" and that he wished "we all had more patience."

Around the time that article ran in National Journal, The Washington Post reported that Scott had taken the general manager of a Charleston lingerie store called Bits of Lace on a trip to an exclusive resort. Less than a year later, anonymous sources told a gossip blog that the two had broken up.

Since then, Scott has occasionally hinted at past and present girlfriends while never mentioning anyone by name, which only led to questions like this from CNN's Dana Bash in 2017:

"What gives?" she asked about his unmarried status.

Scott then surprised Bash by offering an otherwise unreported tidbit: that he had once been engaged.

"I didn't know that," Bash said, to which Scott offered a deadpan reply: "Shhh, don't tell anyone."

Apparently nobody told Brian Moniz, the childhood friend.

"No, I don't think he's ever been engaged," he said when I spoke to him in August.

As for any current girlfriend, Moniz said: "I am not aware of anyone at this time."

Playing things close to the vest doesn't necessarily play well with everyone. A few weeks ago, Axios reported that Scott's privacy about his personal life was an issue with conservative donors who might otherwise consider backing his candidacy. "The joke has always been that he is secretly gay or something," the unnamed operative told me. "I don't really buy that. But he's got an interesting history." The dossier he'd sent included details about Scott having owned property and shared a jet ski with male friends.

Scott is not gay, DeCasper told me, and nobody who knows him suggested otherwise. But the rumor mill is lazy, and the "joke" about the senator's sexuality still gets repeated. Early last year, for example, Matt Schlapp, the head of the Conservative Political Action Conference, asked me whom I thought Trump might choose as his 2024 running mate. When I mentioned Scott, Schlapp replied: "You think he picks a gay vice president?" (Incidentally, Schlapp, who is married with five kids, was later accused of unwanted groping by a male staffer on Herschel Walker's Senate campaign. He has denied the allegations.)

According to Moniz, Scott's bachelorhood is a simple case of being married to his job.

"It's been a challenge, mainly for the females in his life over the years," Moniz said. "They get put on the back burner. Women have hung around for a while, and they realize they're not going to be the top priority right now."

Bobby Harrell, who has been friends with Scott since the two served together in the South Carolina State House, told me that Scott talked often about how much he admired Harrell's 44-year marriage and "wished for something like it someday." In 2018, Scott told Politico that he wanted to have six(!) children once he found "Mrs. Right."

"Every time my wife talks to him," Al Jenkins, a longtime friend and current staffer, told me in 2020, "she says, 'Who is she, and when are we going to meet her?'"

Now, three years later, I had the same questions. Six friends I spoke with said they didn't know about a woman in his life. Others never returned my calls. The campaign, of course, was well aware that I was trying to get to the bottom of Scott's love life. They were polite, but not exactly eager to spill.

Finally, with one debate out of the way and the end of summer approaching, Scott's campaign did agree to make the principal available for a brief interview on the subject.

And so, two weeks ago, I flew to South Carolina to ask a 57-year-old presidential candidate whether he had a girlfriend.

"If I had my druthers, we wouldn't be doing this," Scott said.

We were sitting at a conference table at the DoubleTree hotel in North Charleston. Scott was looking sharp in a blue suit with no tie. His head was freshly shaved. A security guard stood sentry outside the door, and Scott was flanked by three different spokespeople. The whole thing felt a little like a one-man news conference, or perhaps a deposition. He came armed with talking points about how American voters cared about their own families, not about his family.

"I have been very protective of my family and my loved ones," he told me. "I signed up for this. If we make it, she will be signing up for it as well, but at least then she'll know what she's getting into. But until then, the only conversation I'm going to have about her in any form or fashion is right now."

For months, Scott explained, a friend from church had been trying to set him up with a woman the friend knew. Scott had told him that he wasn't ready for a relationship. Then, late last year, the friend texted Scott the woman's photo.

"You know what?" Scott recalled telling his friend after seeing the picture. "I've prayed on it. Tell me about her again?"

He got the woman's number. They started talking, hitting it off with discussions about God and using a phone app to do a Bible study together. Scott said he loved her laugh. They had dinner at a downtown Charleston restaurant. She got the steak, he got the swordfish, and they shared even though, as Scott would later learn, she didn't care for swordfish. They played pickleball, and Scott was embarrassed to find out that he was the "weak man on the court."



ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

Scott, seen at top earlier this month and above with Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) in 2012, says he has been "been very protective of my family and my loved ones." Of his girlfriend, he says: "I can't imagine dragging her onto the campaign trail unless I have the intention of marrying her."

He wouldn't tell me her name, and the campaign declined to make her available to chat, even off the record. Technically I can't verify that she exists, except to note that for a presidential campaign to essentially reverse-catfish America would be insane. (By way of corroboration, DeCasper offered that she's personally hung out with her at the zoo.)

Scott said he had theories about why other campaigns might want to draw attention to his being single. It's just a way to "sow seeds of doubt" about his campaign, he said, a way "to say that, 'That guy isn't one of us.'"

"It's like a different form of discrimination or bias," Scott said. "You can't say I'm Black, because that would be terrible, so find something else that you can attack."

Throwing himself into work was always kind of defense mechanism, he said — a response to watching his parents' marriage blow up when he was a child. "For me, it was the defining moment of my entire life," he said. "It creates scar tissue. One thing you can do when that happens is run away or run toward something else. And I ran toward purpose."

What, other than a photo and some prayerful reflection, might have made Scott decide to run toward a relationship at the same time as he's running, harder than ever, toward his life's purpose? A cynic would note that, when a person sets out to run for president, nearly everything they do in the lead-up to the election is done with a campaign in mind, and perhaps Scott thought finding a partner would help his candidacy.

As the interview came to a close, I half expected the door to the conference room to swing open, and for the mystery woman to waltz in for a dramatic reveal.

Then again, Scott isn't the reality TV guy in the race.

"I can't imagine dragging her onto the campaign trail unless I have the intention of marrying her," he said. "I hope that happens, to be honest with you."

He paused.

"I guess I should be careful about how I say that," Scott said, with a sheepish grin. "Strike that comment."

He laughed. His relationship and campaign were both new. It's hard to know, this early, if any of this is real.



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TELEVISION

TV HIGHLIGHTS



AMAZON STUDIOS

Kelce (Prime Video) What started out as Jason Kelce, above, documenting what he believed would be his final year in the NFL turned into one of the most exciting years of the Kelce brothers' lives — culminating in Jason and Travis playing against each other in the Super Bowl.

House Hunters (HGTV at 10:01) An artsy couple look to purchase their first home together; they're looking for something with enough space for each of them to explore their creative passions.

PREMIERES

The Swarm (CW at 9) A battle begins between mankind and an unknown maritime intelligence; in the first episode, scientist Charlie Wagner learns about a phenomenon at an outpost in the Shetland Islands.

Football Must Go On (Paramount Plus) The docuseries chronicles Shakhtar Donetsk, a Ukrainian soccer club, during the 2022-2023 UEFA Champions League season as the war with Russia rages on in the background.

SPECIALS

2023 MTV Video Music Awards (Multiple networks at 8) Honoring the biggest names in music with live performances and awards; performers include Demi Lovato, Stray Kids, Karol G, Maneskin and (for the first time in 17 years) Shakira.

Michelle Wolf: It's Great to Be Here (Netflix) Comedian Michelle Wolf ("The Daily Show") discusses nude beaches, men's interests and the startling serial killer gender gap in her new special.

MOVIE

Jennifer's Body (MoreMax at 7:17) Megan Fox stars as Jennifer, a teenage dream girl who turns into a man-eating demon after a ritual gone wrong, much to the horror of her best friend, Needy (Amanda Seyfried), who tries to limit the carnage in this horror comedy.

FINALES

Beat Shazam (Fox at 8) It's a battle of the generations as a team of millennials, a team of baby boomers and a team of Gen Xers attempt to recall the most songs and take home the prize.

Don't Forget the Lyrics! (Fox at 9) A computer hacker and a grocery store worker try to finish the lyrics.

RETURNING

Welcome to Wrexham (FX at 10) Season 2.

Glow Up (Netflix) Season 5.

— Olivia McCormack

BROADCAST CHANNELS

9/12/23	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
4.1 WRC (NBC)	◆ **NBC News**	◆ **Hollywood**	◆ **America's Got Talent** (Live)				◆ Quantum Leap		◆ **News**	(:35) ◆ J. Fallon
4.2 WRC (IND)	Bones		Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Roseanne	Roseanne	The Nanny	The Nanny
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	◆ **Fox 5**	◆ **TMZ**	◆ **Beat Shazam** (SF)		◆ **Don't Forget** (SF)		◆ **Fox 5 News at 10**		◆ **Fox 5 News**	◆ **The Final 5**
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	◆ **Wheel**	◆ **Jeopardy!**	◆ Celebrity Family Feud		◆ Jeopardy! Masters		◆ The Chase		◆ **News**	◆ J.Kimmel
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	◆ **Inside Ed.**	◆ **ET**	◆ FBI		◆ FBI: International		◆ FBI: Most Wanted		◆ **9 News**	(:35) ◆ Colbert
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	◆ **Fútbol**	◆ **Fútbol masculino** Mexico vs. Uzbekistan (Live)					◆ **Tierra de esperanza**		◆ Noticias Univisión	
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	◆ FamFeud	◆ FamFeud	◆ **Fox 5 News On the Plus**		◆ FamFeud	◆ FamFeud	◆ FamFeud	◆ Puzzler	◆ Chicago Fire	
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	◆ Farm	◆ Outdoors	◆ Finding Your Roots		◆ **American Experience**				◆ **Amanpour and Company**	
26.1 WETA (PBS)	◆ **PBS NewsHour**		◆ Finding Your Roots		◆ **American Experience**				◆ **Amanpour and Company**	
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	◆ DW News	◆ Rubenstein	◆ America ReFramed		◆ Vets N	◆ Nature		◆ Wild Hope	◆ BBC News	◆ Roadtrip
50.1 WDCW (CW)	◆ Neighbor	◆ Neighbor	◆ **Inside the NFL** Week 1		◆ **The Swarm** (P)		◆ **DC News Now**		◆ Seinfeld	◆ Seinfeld
66.1 WPXW (ION)	◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire	

CABLE CHANNELS

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
A&E	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	Neighbor.	(:35) Neighbor.
AMC	(5:30) Movie: My Cousin Vinny		Movie: Goodfellas ★★★★ (1990)						Movie: Rocky IV ★★	
Animal Planet	Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Yellowstone Wardens		Yellowstone Wardens	
BET	Celebrity Family Feud		**2023 MTV Video Music Awards**						MTV Video	
Bravo	Housewives SLC		Housewives SLC		**The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City**			(:45) Housewives SLC		
Cartoon Network	King/Hill	King/Hill	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	American	American	American	American	Rick
CNN	**E. B. OutFront** (Live)		**Cooper 360** (Live)		**The Source With** (Live)		**CNN Primetime** (Live)		**CNN Tonight** (Live)	
Comedy Central	The Office	The Office	**2023 MTV Video Music Awards**						MTV Video	
Discovery	Deadliest Catch		**Deadliest Catch**		**Bering Sea Gold**		**Mysteries**		(:05) Mysteries	
Disney	Movie	(:45) Hailey	(:10) Hailey	(:35) Hailey	Marvel's	(:35) Ladybug	Ladybug	Ladybug	The Villains	The Villains
E!	Modern Fam.	Modern Fam.	Modern Fam.	Modern Fam.	Modern Fam.	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	**E! News**	Saved/Bell
ESPN	**SportCtr**	**E60**			**Women's College Volleyball** Nebraska at Stanford (Live)				**SportsCenter** (Live)	
ESPN2	NFL's Greatest Games		X Games California 2023 Trending Moments				NFL Live		UFC Main Events	
Food Network	Chopped		**Chopped**		**Bobby's Triple Threat**		Chopped		Chopped	
Fox News	**The Ingraham Angle** (Live)		**Jesse Watters** (Live)		**Hannity** (Live)		**Gutfeld!**		**Fox News at Night** (Live)	
Freeform	(6:30) Movie: Despicable Me 3 ★★ (2017)			Movie: Sing ★★★ (2016)					The 700 Club	
FX	Movie	Movie: Free Guy ★★★ (2021) (P)					**Welcome to Wrexham**		WelcomeTo	WelcomeTo
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: Yes, I Do		Movie: Love on Harbor Island (2020)				Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
Hallmark M&M	Garage Sale Mysteries				Garage Sale Mysteries				Murder, She Wrote	
HBO	(:10) Winning Beat L.A.		Movie: Good Will Hunting ★★★ (1997)				(:10) Movie: The Conjuring ★★★ (2013)			
HGTV	Good Bones		**Good Bones**		**Good Bones**		**Hunters**	**Hunters Int'l**	Hunters	Hunters Int'l
History	(6:00) Ancient Aliens		Ancient Aliens		Ancient Aliens		(:05) Ancient Aliens		(:05) Ancient Aliens	
Lifetime	Castle		Castle		Castle		(:05) Castle		(:05) Castle	
MASN	(6:30) **Baseball** St. Louis Cardinals at Baltimore Orioles				**O's Xtra**	World Poker Tour		**Touchdown Baltimore**		Bensinger
MSNBC	**The ReidOut** (Live)		**All In With** (Live)		**Alex Wagner Tonight** (Live)		**Last Word** (Live)		**11th Hour** (Live)	
MTV	(6:30) **MTV Video**		**2023 MTV Video Music Awards**						MTV Video	
Nat'l Geographic	Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero		**Life Below Zero**		**Life Below Zero**		Life Below Zero	
NBC SportsNet WA	Pure Outdoor	Short List	The Immo	Greatest	Washington	Fairways of Life		Outdoor	Short List	The Immo
Nickelodeon	(5:30) Movie: Sonic the Hed...		**2023 MTV Video Music Awards**						MTV Video	
NWSN	**On Balance**		**Cuomo**		**Dan Abrams Live** (Live)		**Banfield**		Cuomo	
PARMT	Two Men	Two Men	**2023 MTV Video Music Awards**						MTV Video	
Syfy	Movie: Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark ★★ (2019)					Movie: The Hunt ★★ (2020)				Movie
TBS	**MLB Baseball** New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox (Live)						**MLB Close**	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon
TCM	(6:00) Movie: Without Reser...		Movie: Winchester '73 ★★★ (1950)				Movie: Act of Violence ★★ (1949)			Movie
TLC	Welcome to Plathville		**My Big Fat Fabulous Life**		**My Big Fat Fabulous Life**		**Welcome to Plathville**		Sister Wives	
TNT	(5:45) Movie: The Mummy		**Pregame**	**M. Friendlies** United States vs. Oman (Live)				**Postgame**	Movie: The Mummy ★★	
Travel	Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals		Haunted Hospitals	
TruTV	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Movie: Rush Hour 3 ★ (2007)			
TV Land	Raymond	Raymond	**2023 MTV Video Music Awards**						MTV Video	
TV One	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single	Living Single
USA Network	Law & Order: SVU		**WWE NXT** (Live)				(:10) Movie: Speed ★★★ (1994)			
VH1	Love & Hip Hop Miami		**2023 MTV Video Music Awards**						MTV Video	
WNC8	Memory	Income!	Fed Gov	7News at 6	**SportsTalk**	**World News**	**WJLA News**	Leg Pain?	**The National Desk** (Live)	

LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ◆ High Definition Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated

In 'Treasure,' the gift of empathy

ELSESSER FROM C1

so much work that needs to be done — fundamentally in fashion, [with people] just having empathy, period."

Elsesser is once again pushing boundaries with a new book, "Treasure," documenting in intimate detail breast surgeries she underwent in 2019 and 2023. The project wouldn't have been possible without its photographer, Zora Sicher, 27, who first photographed Elsesser for i-D Magazine in 2016, "when the female gaze was a very popular term," Sicher said on a recent phone call with Elsesser. Sicher has been one of Elsesser's go-to photographers since, especially on collaborative projects such as the model's plus-size capsule for the influencer-favored brand Miaou.

Both have transcended fashion's propensity for typecasting, Elsesser in particular; despite ongoing cheers about "body positivity," plus-size models, a category that usually means a woman who is a Size 12 dress size or higher, are less present on the runway than in recent memory. Fashion search engine Tagwalk reported at the end of the Fall 2023 season that the overall number of plus-size and midsize models on the runway dropped by 24 percent from the previous season.

"Treasure" is an intimate and at times disturbing series of images, documenting pain and blood and scarring. It perhaps gently suggests that empathy can be a way of finding beauty. "I



ZORA SICHER



Paloma Elsesser, above, in "Treasure," her new book with Zora Sicher.

trust her not just on a friend level, not just on an artist level, but on a truly fundamentally moral and ethical level," Elsesser said of allowing Sicher into the operating room to photograph her sliced nipples and breasts.

Many other models of her set have started clothing or makeup lines. A book documenting two painful plastic surgeries — a breast reduction with the insertion of two implants to maintain the roundness of her breasts in 2019, and the subsequent removal of the implants in 2023 — certainly makes a drastic statement. "People are very uncomfortable stepping outside of who they're told to be," Elsesser said.

But what motivates Elsesser's career moves, she said, is the process of negotiating the world of modeling "morally and ethically."

Not everyone admires that outspokenness, she pointed out, which is part of what makes Elsesser such a significant presence in the modeling world. "Zora and I are so upfront about the way that we see and feel," she said, adding that she and Sicher enjoy existing "on the edges of our industry." Both carefully interrogate their projects and collaborators, feeling as if their choices and alignments represent something deeper about who they are.

Considering that, following the #MeToo movement, many magazines stopped working with photographers accused of misconduct and put guardrails in place to ensure models' safety on set, there is something utopian about the model-photographer relationship between Sicher and Elsesser, which makes the book notable on its own.

But then there are the images themselves. They are not designed as a foil to, say, clinical imagery of surgeries — which is often rife with ethical ambiguities — nor is it just an antidote to the lascivious photography of classic fashion photographers such as Helmut Newton, whose images for Vogue often glamorized plastic surgery as a high-tech form of BDSM. As Elsesser put it, "These aren't modeling images," executed with the lighting and angles that would capture a model at her most pristine. Though they are in intriguing conversation with both kinds of photography. (Sicher points out the anonymity of medical textbooks, in which identifying features are generally blocked out, which can feel dehumanizing.)



SLAVEN VLASIC/GETTY IMAGES FOR VICTORIA'S SECRET

"People are very uncomfortable stepping outside of who they're told to be," said Elsesser, seen earlier this month. Her new book documents two painful plastic surgeries, one in 2019 and one this year.

Instead, these images inspire empathy. Elsesser and Sicher said that was one of the most rewarding parts of taking the images: the conversation that has emerged between each other and their friends around the grades of vanity that cosmetic surgery seems to inspire. Breast implants are remarkably common, Elsesser said, and "they're appreciated and valued when they're perfect and they're done, and it's pornography and images — if they look natural, or they don't and they look like a spectacle. But one person vulnerably engaging with that conversation — it's suddenly uncomfortable. It's suddenly, 'You don't love yourself.'"

Sicher finished Elsesser's sentence: "Which is sort of what drove me to ask a lot of these questions," of herself and of Elsesser while capturing the images. "Most of the time, we're just talking [while taking the photographs]. My approach to photography has always been way more emotional than it is technical."

the GUIDE to the Lively Arts

SHOW NAME	DATES & TIMES	DESCRIPTION	DETAILS	PRICE	ADDITIONAL
MUSIC - CONCERTS					
THE US ARMY BAND PERSHING'S OWN — **Concert Band and Chorus** Seasons of Life and Love	SATURDAY September 16 7:30 PM Doors at 6:45 PM	A rare outside-the-beltway performance from Pershing's Own! Be moved by the music that encapsulates the profound beauty of the human experience in a celebration of life, love, and the timeless power of music. Get FREE tickets from link at usarmyband.com	**Calvin and Janet High Center College Ave. Mechanicsburg, PA** **usarmyband.com**	FREE TIX	Check full schedule at usarmyband.com

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• Thursday in Style. deadline: Wed., 12 noon • Friday in Weekend. deadline: Tues., 12 noon • Saturday in Style. deadline: Friday, 12 noon
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22-0776

Hulu's 'The Other Black Girl' keeps debut novel's spirit intact

TV REVIEW FROM C1

by Kendra Rae's childhood friend Diana Gordon — helped put Wagner and its eponymous founder/editor in chief, Richard (Eric McCormack of "Will & Grace" fame), on the map. But four decades later, that legacy is wearing thin. So Nella is almost too excited when Hazel-May McCall ("Riverdale's" Ashleigh Murray) appears one day in the cubicle adjacent to hers.

As Nella tries to discern whether she can trust Hazel, she starts feeling as if she's being followed and receives notes advising her to "LEAVE WAGNER NOW." Hazel seems oddly cozy with Richard, and seems to effortlessly get along with Wagner's editors, including Nella's boss, Vera ("Scandal's" Bellamy Young).

With help from her boyfriend, Owen ("Weeds" alum Hunter Parrish), and BFF, Malaika (Brittany Adebumola), Nella keeps careful — even paranoid — tabs on Hazel, investigating what she fears could be a dangerous corporate conspiracy. Though the series veers into vaguely supernatural territory, the challenging tête-à-tête at the center of "The Other Black Girl" is very real. Nella is relieved to see another Black face at Wagner, but she's also wary of sabotage. As the saying goes, "All skinfolk ain't kinfolk," a variation of a quote attributed to Zora Neale Hurston.

Like Peele's feature debut, "The Other Black Girl" punctuates its thrills with social commentary — casting racism as the story's Big Bad. The hairs on your neck might stand up after seeing Nella run confused through Wagner's dimly lit office after hours, hearing menacing voices, but any sighting of Nella's try-hard colleague Sophie (Kate Owens) sets off a similar, if slightly less urgent, level of alarm. If you know, you know the type: shows up at your desk to discuss anything vaguely Black — hip-hop, Beyoncé visuals, the latest Telfar drop; uses words and phrases she probably shouldn't; and offers only the most performative displays of allyship for her BIPOC (and it's always BIPOC) colleagues.

The plot can get a bit unwieldy throughout the course of its 10 episodes, and there are some tone issues (forgivable for a series that straddles drama, comedy and thriller), but the show is as timely as its source material in the wake of a so-called racial reckoning that, among other discourse, brought to light the inequities that Black and other employees of color face at predominantly White companies.

"The Other Black Girl" might sound triggering for those who know the experience of being Black in a predominantly White office or industry. But the show is clever in its sendup of those homogenous environments and never feels like an outsider's guide to tokenism. In one early scene, a White editor breezily notes that "Hazel mentors underprivileged students up in Harlem." "We use the term opportunity-challenged," Hazel says without missing a beat. "Our job is to embolden them beyond their circumstances." It's not inconsequential that there are Black women at the helm of the series: Harris, who adapted her own novel for television; executive producer Rashida Jones, who co-wrote the first episode with Harris; and showrunner Danielle Henderson.



HULU

Sinclair Daniel as Nella, left, and Ashleigh Murray as Hazel in Hulu's "The Other Black Girl," based on Zakiya Dalila Harris's fictional thriller of the same name.

The realities of being Black at work haven't been widely explored on television. Notable exceptions include Issa Rae's "Insecure," in which Rae's protagonist struggles through her aimless underemployment at a nonprofit geared toward Black and Latino youth. "The Other Black Girl" is about publishing, but Hollywood doesn't go unchecked in a story that centers Black women and offers multiple Black actresses dynamic lead roles. When Garcelle Beauvais (known for memorable turns on "NYPD Blue" and "The Jamie Foxx Show") shows up as *the* Diana Gordon, you get the sense that she has more to do here than in most of the other unscripted roles she's held since breaking out in the late 1980s.

"The Other Black Girl" reflects a workplace culture that quietly tolerates discrimination. The show comes as some corporations that stumbled over themselves to hop on the diversity-and-inclusion train have quietly let go of the executives they hired to hold them accountable. Black women still work in environments where they are told to be confident (but not too confident) and that consistently undervalue their talent, expertise and financial worth. "The Other Black Girl" zeroes in on the absurdity of it all, but also the complexities.

The Other Black Girl (10 episodes) premieres Wednesday on Hulu.

MOVIE DIRECTORY

(!) No Pass/No Discount Ticket

Tuesday, September 12, 2023
www.washingtonpost.com/movies

DISTRICT

AMC Georgetown 14
3111 K Street N.W.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:40-10:00
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) CC: 2:40
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 2:15-6:00-9:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:50-4:50-7:45-10:40
Strays (R) CC: 10:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:45-2:30-5:05-7:40-9:30-10:20
Elemental (PG) CC: 1:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 3:25-10:25
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:30-5:10-7:45-10:20
Golda (PG-13) CC: 1:45
Talk to Me (R) CC: 10:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:40-5:00-7:20-9:40
Bottoms (R) CC: 2:05-4:45-7:15-9:35
Barbie (PG-13) OC: 7:20
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) OC: 4:05
The Equalizer 3 (R) OC: 6:50
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:00-4:40-7:15-9:50
Golda (PG-13) OC: 4:20
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) OC: 7:35

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - DC Bryant Street
630 Rhode Island Ave NE
Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (1964) (PG) 7:00
Road House (1989) (NR) 7:30
Barbie (PG-13) 3:00-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 2:30
Oppenheimer (R) 3:15-9:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 2:45-3:30-6:45-9:45
The Nun II (R) 2:45-6:00
My Animal (R) 9:45
Cassandro (R) 8:00
Bottoms (R) 2:30-3:30-5:15-6:30-9:15-10:35
Barbie (PG-13) 6:15
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 6:00
Oppenheimer (R) 5:30
The Nun II (R) 3:45-9:15-10:00

Angelika Pop-Up at Union Market
550 Penn Street NE - Unit E
Barbie (PG-13) 2:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 4:45
Bottoms (R) 7:30
Barbie (PG-13) 4:30-7:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 2:15-7:15
Bottoms (R) 2:30-5:00

Avalon Theatre
5612 Connecticut Avenue
Oppenheimer (R) 3:45-7:30
Golda (PG-13) 12:45-3:05-5:25-7:45
National Theatre Live: Best of Enemies 10:30AM

Landmark Atlantic Plumbing Cinema
807 V Street Northwest
Barbie (PG-13) 4:20-7:10
Oppenheimer (R) 4:00-7:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 4:40-7:40
The Nun II (R) 7:20
Bottoms (R) 5:00-7:00-7:50
The Nun II (R) 4:30
Bottoms (R) 4:10

Landmark E Street Cinema
555 11th Street Northwest
Mulholland Drive (R) 3:00-7:30
Barbie (PG-13) 7:15
Oppenheimer (R) 3:30-7:00
Linoleum 7:35
The Equalizer 3 (R) 3:45-7:45
L'immensità 3:25
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 3:15
Bottoms (R) 4:00-7:25
Barbie (PG-13) 3:15
Theater Camp (PG-13) 3:00

Regal Gallery Place
701 Seventh Street Northwest
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:00-5:55
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:20-1:20-3:00-6:10-7:50-8:50-9:10
Jawan (Hindi) 12:40-4:20-8:20
The Nun II (R) 12:00-3:00-6:00-9:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:10-2:40-6:25-8:45
Bottoms (R) 12:50-1:20-3:20-4:10-6:05-6:40-8:35-9:10
Oppenheimer 70mm (R) 11:50-3:50-7:50
Barbie (PG-13) 11:50-2:45-5:30-8:25
The Equalizer 3 (R) 4:30
The Nun II (R) 12:30-1:00-2:30-3:30-3:35-4:00-5:10-5:30-6:30-7:00-8:00-8:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) OC: 3:10

MARYLAND

AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center
8633 Colesville Road
Enter the Dragon (1973) (R) 12:00-7:00
Oppenheimer (R) OC: 8:00
Midnight Cowboy (R) 6:15-8:45
Oppenheimer (R) 2:20
Desperate Souls, Dark City and the Legend of Midnight Cowboy 12:05-5:45
Dirty Harry (R) 4:45
Vertigo (1958) (PG) 2:15

AMC Academy 8
6198 Greenbelt Road
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:20-4:00-6:50-9:40
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 1:40-4:30-7:40-10:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:00-6:40-9:20
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:30-4:40-7:20-10:20
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:30-4:15-7:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 4:00
The Nun II (R) 10:00

AMC Annapolis Mall 11
1020 Annapolis Mall Road
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 11:10-1:15-4:00-6:40-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 11:00-1:30-4:00-6:30
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 11:00-2:50-6:15-9:10
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 12:20-3:20-6:45-9:45
Strays (R) CC: 10:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 11:20-2:00-4:40-7:20-10:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 12:10-4:10-7:15-10:10
The Nun II (R) CC: 11:00-12:00-1:40-2:40-4:20-5:20-7:00-8:00-9:45-10:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:30-9:50
Bottoms (R) CC: 1:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:20
Retribution (R) CC: 11:00AM

AMC Center Park 8
4001 Powder Mill Rd.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:50-4:30-7:15-10:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:30-4:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:10-4:20-7:20-9:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:00-4:00-6:50-10:20
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:20-4:10-6:40-9:40
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:00-4:45-6:30-7:30-9:15-10:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:15-4:50-7:40-10:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 1:40-4:20-7:10-9:50

AMC Columbia 14
10300 Little Patuxent Parkway
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:00-3:45-6:30-9:15
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) CC: 2:15-5:50
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:45-4:30-7:00
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 2:00-6:00-9:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 2:50-6:05-9:10
Strays (R) CC: 9:50
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 9:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:15-2:15-4:00-6:45-7:45-9:30
Elemental (PG) CC: 5:00
Jawan (Hindi) 2:00-6:00-9:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 2:30-6:00-9:20
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:40
Oppenheimer: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 1:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:30-4:00-9:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 1:40-4:05-6:25-9:25
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 5:00-8:00
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) CC: 1:00-3:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 6:00-9:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 6:30

AMC DINE-IN Rio Cinemas 18
9811 Washingtonian Center
Star Trek (PG-13) CC: 4:40
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 11:00-1:45-4:30-7:20-10:15
Top Gun: Maverick (PG-13) CC: 1:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 3:00-8:00
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 12:30-4:30-8:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:45-4:45-7:45-10:45
Strays (R) CC: 11:05-12:45-5:45-10:45
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:15-2:15-4:00-5:00-6:45-7:45-9:30-10:30
Elemental (PG) CC: 11:30AM
Jawan (Hindi) 11:00-2:45-6:30-10:15
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 12:45-4:00-7:15-10:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:00-3:00-6:00-9:00
Talk to Me (R) CC: 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:30-10:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 11:15-1:00-3:30-6:00-8:30-11:00
Retribution (R) CC: 3:15-8:15
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) CC: 11:10-10:30
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) CC: 7:40-10:45
The Incredibles (2004) Disney100 (PG) 1:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem 3D (PG) CC: 12:30-5:30-10:30
No More Bets 4:30-7:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 11:00-2:00-5:00-7:55; 3:30-9:30; 12:30-6:30

AMC Loews St. Charles Town Ctr. 9
11115 Mall Circle
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 4:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 2:00-7:15
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:00-4:00-7:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 12:45-2:00-3:30-4:45-6:15-8:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:15-4:30-7:45
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:15-3:00-5:45-7:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45
Bottoms (R) CC: 12:30-3:00-5:30-8:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem 3D (PG) 5:15
Barbie (PG-13) 2:20-7:45

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center 12
800 Shoppers Way
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:15-4:00-6:45-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:40-4:10-6:40-9:10
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 2:30-5:30-8:30
Strays (R) CC: 1:25-6:40
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 3:50-9:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:15-3:40-4:00-6:20-6:45-9:00-9:30
Elemental (PG) CC: 4:40-7:15
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:45-5:00-8:10
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:00-3:45-6:30-9:15
Talk to Me (R) CC: 2:15-4:45-7:10-9:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:10-4:35-7:00-9:30
Retribution (R) CC: 1:20
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 1:30-4:15-7:00-9:45

AMC Montgomery 16
7101 Democracy Boulevard
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:15-4:30-7:15-10:00
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) CC: 10:05
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 2:30-5:15-7:45-10:15
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 2:55-7:15-10:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 2:45-6:00-9:00
Strays (R) CC: 5:15-7:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 2:20-4:15-7:00-9:45-11:00
Elemental (PG) CC: 3:00-5:45
Jawan (Hindi) 2:00-6:00-9:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 2:50-6:15-9:20
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:45-4:00-5:30-6:45-8:15-9:30-10:55
Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny (PG-13) CC: 11:00
Golda (PG-13) CC: 2:40-5:30-8:00-10:30
The Hill (PG) CC: 5:05
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
Bottoms (R) CC: 2:30-5:00-7:30-10:00
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) CC: 5:00-8:30
The Good Mother (R) 2:05-8:00-10:45
No More Bets 2:10-7:30

Cinemark Egyptian 24 and XD
7000 Arundel Mills Circle
Barbie (PG-13) 10:45-1:35-4:25-7:20-10:10
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 10:40-1:20-4:05-6:45-9:30
Oppenheimer (R) 10:25-2:25-6:30-10:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 10:15-1:20-4:25-7:30-10:45
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 1:10-4:10-7:25-10:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:00-11:25-11:50-1:45-2:10-2:35-4:30-4:55-5:20-7:15-7:40-8:05-10:00-10:25-10:50
Jawan (Hindi) XD: 11:10-3:00-6:50-10:40
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 10:00-1:15-4:35-7:45-10:55
The Nun II (R) 11:05-1:55-4:45-7:35-10:25; 11:05-1:55-4:45-7:35-10:25; 10:35-1:25-4:15-7:05-9:55; 10:05-11:40-12:10-12:55-2:30-3:00-3:45-5:20-5:50-6:35-8:10-8:40-9:25-11:00
Talk to Me (R) 2:50-5:25-8:00-10:35
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 10:30-11:50-1:00-2:50-3:30-5:30-7:00-8:00-9:30-10:30
Bottoms (R) 11:55-2:45-5:15-7:55-10:35
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) 11:25-2:00-4:35-7:10-9:45
Strays (R) 10:00-4:20-11:00
Elemental (PG) 12:00
Jawan (Hindi) 10:50-2:40-6:30-10:20
Jawan (Telugu) 2:20-10:00
Jawan (Tamil) 10:30-6:10
The Nun II (R) XD: 10:35-1:25-4:15-7:05-9:55
Kushi (Telugu) 12:35-7:15
Haunted Mansion (PG-13) 3:05-9:50
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 11:15-6:15
The Incredibles (2004) Disney100 (PG) 10:10AM

Cinépolis Gaithersburg
629 Center Point Way
Barbie (PG-13) 2:40-5:40-7:40
Oppenheimer (R) 1:40-8:40
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:40-4:45-8:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:00-1:00-3:00-4:00-6:00-7:00-9:00-10:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:00-3:40-6:20-9:40
The Nun II (R) 1:20-2:20-4:20-5:20-7:20-8:20-10:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:20-3:20-6:40-9:20

Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema
7235 Woodmont Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 1:00-1:45-3:30-4:15-6:30-7:15
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 1:30-3:30-7:05
Oppenheimer (R) 1:10-4:00-7:00
Linoleum 4:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:15-4:50-7:30
L'immensità 1:50-6:30
Golda (PG-13) 1:50-4:40-7:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:10-3:15-5:20-7:30

Landmark at Annapolis Harbour Center
2474 Solomons Island Road Unit H-1
Mulholland Drive (R) 1:00-7:00
Barbie (PG-13) 1:30-4:15-7:15
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 1:50-4:10-7:05
Oppenheimer (R) 1:00-3:40-7:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:10-4:35-7:20
Linoleum 1:45-7:15
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 4:05
L'immensità 4:30
The Nun II (R) 1:40-4:25-7:40
The Hill (PG) 1:20-7:10
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:45-3:00-5:15-7:30
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) 4:05

Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 7:30
The Adults (R) 7:45

Phoenix Theatres Marlow 6
3899 Branch Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 2:35-5:15-8:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 4:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:50-4:40-7:35
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 5:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 2:30-3:00-5:00-7:30-8:30
The Nun II (R) 3:00-5:30-7:30-8:15

Regal Cinemas Majestic Stadium 20 & IMAX
900 Ellsworth Drive
Barbie (PG-13) 12:50-3:45-6:35-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:50-3:40
Mastaney (Punjabi) 1:20-4:55-8:30
Oppenheimer (R) 12:15-4:20-8:25
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:15-3:25-6:30-9:45
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:20-1:20-3:10-4:10-6:00-6:30-7:00-8:50-9:20-9:50
Jawan (Hindi) 12:15-4:15-8:15
Jawan (Telugu) 1:15-9:15
Jawan (Tamil) 5:15
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:00-3:20-6:40-9:50
The Nun II (R) 12:10-1:10-1:40-3:05-4:05-4:35-6:00-7:00-7:30-8:55-9:55
Talk to Me (R) 9:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:50-1:50-3:30-4:30-7:10-8:50-9:50
Bottoms (R) 12:30-3:10-5:50-8:30
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 1:10-5:00-8:50
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) 12:40-3:35-6:30-9:25
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) 1:00-3:45-6:35-9:15
The Incredibles (2004) Disney100 (PG) 12:45-3:40-6:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 6:10

Regal Germantown
20000 Century Boulevard
Barbie (PG-13) 11:55-3:20-6:10-9:10
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani 5:10-9:20
Oppenheimer (R) 12:30-4:20-8:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:05
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:00-2:50-5:40-8:30
Jawan (Hindi) 1:20-5:00-6:40-7:10-8:50-9:30
Jawan (Tamil) 3:50
Jawan (Telugu) 12:25-7:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 1:10
Kushi (Telugu) 12:50-4:30-8:40
The Nun II (R) 1:00-2:00-3:10-4:00-4:50-6:50-7:40-9:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:20-3:00-8:20
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 1:40-5:20-9:00
Bottoms (R) 2:15-4:40-7:10-9:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 5:50

Regal Hyattsville Royale
6505 America Blvd.
Barbie (PG-13) 12:05-2:55-5:50-8:35
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:50-3:20-6:00
Oppenheimer (R) 12:00-4:05-7:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:45-3:35
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 5:30-8:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:25-1:30-3:05-4:10-5:45-6:40-8:25-9:10
Elemental (PG) 12:10-2:50
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 7:45
The Nun II (R) 12:00-12:10-2:30-3:15-5:00-6:00-7:30-8:40
Talk to Me (R) 8:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:30-1:30-2:45-5:10-6:40-7:30; 4:00

Regal Laurel Towne Centre
14716 Baltimore Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 12:30-3:20-6:30-9:40
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 1:00-3:40-6:20
Oppenheimer (R) 12:10-4:20-8:15
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 2:50-6:10-9:15
Strays (R) 9:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:45-1:50-3:00-3:50-4:40-5:45-7:30-8:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:15-3:30-6:50
The Nun II (R) 12:20-2:10-3:10-5:00-6:00-6:40-7:45-8:45-9:35
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
Bottoms (R) 2:20-4:50-7:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:20

Regal Rockville Center
199 East Montgomery Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 1:50-4:40-7:20
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:40-3:10-5:40
Oppenheimer (R) 12:20-4:20-8:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 11:50-2:40-5:50-9:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:30-4:30-7:00-8:10
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 9:20
The Nun II (R) 1:20-2:10-4:00-5:00-6:50-7:30-9:30
Golda (PG-13) 1:40-4:10-6:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:00-2:20-4:50-7:10
Bottoms (R) 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:40
No More Bets 12:10-3:00-6:00-9:10

Regal Waugh Chapel & IMAX
1419 South Main Chapel Way
Barbie (PG-13) 12:40-3:45-6:45-9:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:50
Oppenheimer (R) 12:00-4:15-8:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:15-3:30-6:40-9:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:00-1:00-2:50-3:50-5:50-6:20-6:50-8:50-9:20-9:50
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:30-3:15-6:20-9:30
The Nun II (R) 12:10-2:10-3:00-5:00-6:00-8:00-9:00
The Hill (PG) 12:20-3:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:50-3:40-4:30-6:30-7:10-9:00-9:50
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) 1:10-4:00-7:00-10:00

Regal Westview & IMAX
5243 Buckeystown Pike
Oppenheimer (R) 12:50-4:40-8:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:20-3:20-6:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:00-1:30-2:50-4:20-5:50-7:15-8:45-10:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 1:00-4:30-7:45-9:10
The Nun II (R) 1:00-3:50-6:50-9:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:20-4:00-9:20
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) 12:20-3:00-5:50-8:50
Barbie (PG-13) 12:40-3:30-6:15-9:40
The Nun II (R) 2:00-5:20-8:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 6:45

Xscape Theatres Brandywine 14
7710 Matapeake Business Drive
The Terminator (R) 1:00-4:00-7:00
Barbie (PG-13) 10:00-12:40-3:30-6:30-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 11:25-1:45-4:25-6:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 10:10-1:10-4:05-7:10-10:10
Strays (R) 9:15
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 10:55-1:35-4:15-6:55-9:55
The Equalizer 3 (R) 10:20-11:00-11:40-12:20-1:00-1:40-2:20-3:00-3:40-4:20-5:00-5:40-6:20-7:00-7:40-8:20-9:00-9:40-10:20
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 10:30-1:30-4:30-7:30-9:50
The Nun II (R) 11:20-12:05-2:00-2:40-4:40-5:20-7:20-8:00-10:00
Talk to Me (R) 11:55-2:55-5:15-7:35-10:05
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:50-2:10-4:30-6:50-9:10

iPic Pike & Rose
11830 Grand Park Avenue
Barbie (PG-13) 3:15-6:30-10:15
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 2:45-6:45-10:15
Oppenheimer (R) 3:00-6:00-9:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 2:30-6:30-10:45
The Equalizer 3 (R) 2:15-3:45-7:00-7:45-10:00-11:00
The Nun II (R) (!) 4:00-7:15-10:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) (!) 3:30-6:15-9:00

VIRGINIA

AMC Courthouse Plaza 8
2150 Clarendon Blvd.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 12:05-2:10-4:50-7:40
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:30
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 12:20-3:00-6:50
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 12:00-4:10-7:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:50
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:00-2:40-4:20-5:20-7:00-8:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 11:50-2:50-5:10-7:30
Bottoms (R) CC: 12:15-2:35-5:00-7:20

AMC Hoffman Center 22
206 Swamp Fox Rd.
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 1:00-1:45-2:30-3:45-4:20-5:15-6:30-7:00-8:00-9:15-9:45
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:00-3:45-9:30; 6:30
Star Trek (PG-13) CC: 7:00
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:45
Top Gun: Maverick (PG-13) CC: 3:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:30-4:00-6:30-9:45
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 6:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 3:30-6:30-9:30
Strays (R) CC: 4:00-9:45
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 1:45-7:00-9:45
Elemental (PG) CC: 4:30
Jawan (Hindi) 2:00-6:00-9:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:15-4:15-6:30-9:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:30-4:15-7:00-9:45
Haunted Mansion (PG-13) CC: 1:45
Oppenheimer: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 2:00
Golda (PG-13) CC: 1:30-4:00
Talk to Me (R) CC: 6:45-9:15
The Hill (PG) CC: 1:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:30-4:00-6:30-9:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 1:30-4:00-7:15-9:45
Retribution (R) CC: 1:15
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) CC: 6:00-9:00
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) CC: 4:45-7:15
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) CC: 2:45-6:00-9:15
Oppenheimer 70mm (R) 1:00-4:45-8:30
The Good Mother (R) 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45
No More Bets 3:00-6:00-9:00

AMC Potomac Mills 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle
Star Trek (PG-13) CC: 4:00
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 2:30-5:30-8:15
Top Gun: Maverick (PG-13) CC: 1:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:15-5:00-8:45
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 1:00-7:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:15-3:00-4:15-6:00-7:15-9:00
Strays (R) CC: 7:10
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 1:00-3:50-6:40
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 2:15-5:00-7:45
Elemental (PG) CC: 1:45-4:30
Jawan (Hindi) 1:00-4:45-8:45
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:45-5:15-8:30
The Nun II (R) CC: 3:00-6:00-9:00
Haunted Mansion (PG-13) CC: 8:15
Talk to Me (R) CC: 5:45
The Hill (PG) CC: 1:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 1:30-6:30-9:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 2:45-5:15-7:45
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) CC: 3:45-6:15-7:00
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) CC: 4:45-8:00
The Incredibles (2004) Disney100 (PG) 2:45
The Nun II (R) CC: 2:00-5:00-8:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 4:00

AMC Shirlington 7
2772 South Randolph St.
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 12:00-4:10-7:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 12:25-3:10-5:50-8:30
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 12:10-2:50-6:40
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:20-4:20-7:20
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:20-3:00-5:40-8:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30
Bottoms (R) CC: 12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50

AMC Tysons Corner 16
7850e Tysons Corner Center
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 12:25-3:10-5:55-8:40
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) CC: 5:10-8:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) CC: 1:10-3:50-6:25
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani 12:50-4:45-8:25
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 8:55
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 1:35-4:35-7:35
Strays (R) CC: 12:00
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) CC: 4:05
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 12:45-3:30-5:05-6:15-7:55-9:00
Elemental (PG) CC: 12:15
Jawan (Hindi) 1:20-5:00-8:50
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 1:45-4:55-8:05
The Nun II (R) CC: 12:30-3:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 12:55-3:30-6:00
Bottoms (R) CC: 12:35-3:00-5:40-8:10
Retribution (R) CC: 2:45
Oppenheimer 70mm (R) 12:05-4:00-7:55
The Incredibles (2004) Disney100 (PG) 2:30
No More Bets 1:05
Jawan: The IMAX 2D Experience 12:10-3:45-7:25
The Nun II (R) CC: 1:25-4:15-7:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 8:35

AMC Worldgate 9
13025 Worldgate Drive
Barbie (PG-13) CC: 5:00-7:45
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) CC: 3:45
Oppenheimer (R) CC: 3:00-6:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) CC: 4:00-7:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) CC: 3:45-8:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) CC: 4:15-7:15
The Nun II (R) CC: 3:00-5:15-7:00-8:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) CC: 4:00-6:30
Bottoms (R) CC: 5:30-7:30

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - One Loudoun
20575 East Hampton Plaza
Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (1964) (PG) 7:00
Barbie (PG-13) 3:15-7:45-9:40
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 4:45
Oppenheimer (R) 3:00-6:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) 3:00-6:00-7:30-10:00
Jawan (Hindi) 2:45-6:45-9:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 2:45
The Nun II (R) 5:00-6:30-8:00
My Animal (R) 10:30
Bottoms (R) 2:15-4:45-7:15-10:30
CatVideoFest 2023 2:00
The Nun II (R) 4:00-9:55

Angelika Film Center Mosaic
2911 District Ave
Barbie (PG-13) 12:30-1:15-3:00-5:30-8:00
Oppenheimer (R) 11:35-3:15-7:05
Jawan (Hindi) 3:40-7:10
Ernest and Celestine: A Trip to Gibberitia 11:30AM
The Nun II (R) 11:55-2:25-4:55-7:30
Golda (PG-13) 1:30-3:50-6:10-8:25
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 2:30
Bottoms (R) 11:40-1:55-4:05-6:20-8:25
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:15
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:15-4:45-7:00

CMX Village 14
1600 Village Market Boulevard
Barbie (PG-13) 11:45-2:25-5:05-7:45
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 12:25-4:00-7:40
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:55
Oppenheimer (R) 11:55-3:50-7:35
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:10-4:25-7:25
Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) 11:50-2:35-5:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:10-1:50-2:50-4:35-5:25-7:15-8:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:50-4:15-7:50
The Nun II (R) 11:40-12:30-1:00-1:40-2:15-3:10-3:40-4:20-4:50-6:00-6:30-7:00-7:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:00-2:20-4:45-7:10
The Good Mother (R) 8:05

Cinema Arts Theatre
9650 Unit 14 Main St.
Barbie (PG-13) 9:45-12:05-2:35-4:55-7:15
The Equalizer 3 (R) 9:50-12:15-2:45-5:05-7:40
The Miracle Club (PG-13) 4:30-6:15
Golda (PG-13) 9:50-12:10-2:30-5:00-7:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 10:05-12:25-2:20-4:35-7:10
Bottoms (R) 10:00-12:20-2:25-4:45-7:20
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) 12:00
Jules (PG-13) 9:55-2:40-8:00

Cinemark Centreville 12
6201 Multiplex Drive
Jawan (Hindi) 1:00-5:10-9:00
Jawan (Telugu) 4:35
Jawan (Tamil) 12:50-8:20
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 9:40
Barbie (PG-13) 1:10-4:00-6:50-10:05
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 1:15-3:50-6:30
Oppenheimer (R) 12:05-4:10-8:10
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:45-3:55-7:00-9:10
The Nun II (R) 12:20-1:50-3:10-4:40-6:00-7:30-8:50-10:20
Talk to Me (R) 12:00-2:35-5:15-7:50-10:25
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:10-2:40-4:50-7:20-9:50
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:40-4:25-7:10-10:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:15-3:30-6:40-9:55

Cinemark Fairfax Corner and XD
11900 Palace Way
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 12:15-9:30
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:00-3:45
Jawan (Hindi) 12:20-4:10-8:00
The Nun II (R) XD: 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:25
Kushi (Telugu) 2:45-10:00
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 6:30
Barbie (PG-13) 12:25-1:25-4:20-7:15-10:15
Oppenheimer (R) 12:15-4:15-8:15
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:35-3:40-6:45-9:55
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:10-2:55-3:55-5:40-6:40-8:25
Jawan (Hindi) XD: 2:10-6:00-9:50
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:40-3:50-7:00-10:10
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:05-2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05
Bottoms (R) 12:30-3:00-5:30-8:00-10:30
The Nun II (R) 12:00-2:50-5:40-6:35-8:30-9:25

Medal of Honor Theater - NMMC
18900 Jefferson Davis Highway
We, the Marines (NR) 10:30-11:30-1:00-3:00-4:00

Regal Ballston Quarter
671 North Glebe Road
Barbie (PG-13) 12:20-2:50-5:50-8:25
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 3:40-6:20
Oppenheimer (R) 11:40-3:20-7:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:10-3:10-6:10-9:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:50-2:40-5:10-8:40
Elemental (PG) 1:10
Jawan (Hindi) 1:40-6:00-8:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:00-3:30-7:20
The Nun II (R) 12:00-12:30-1:00-2:30-3:00-3:30-5:00-5:30-7:00-8:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:45-6:30-8:50
The Equalizer 3 (R) 7:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 4:00

Regal Dulles Town Center
21100 Dulles Town Circle
Barbie (PG-13) 1:00-3:45-6:30-9:00
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:20-2:45
Oppenheimer (R) 12:00-3:55-7:45
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:00-2:50-5:40-8:30
The Equalizer 3 (R) 1:30-4:10-5:30-6:45-9:10
Jawan (Hindi) 12:45-4:20-8:15
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:30-3:25-6:15-9:05
The Nun II (R) 12:10-1:15-2:40-4:00-7:00-8:00-9:25
Talk to Me (R) 8:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:45-4:30-7:15-9:30
The Nun II (R) OC: 5:10

Regal Fairfax Towne Center
4110 West Ox Road
Barbie (PG-13) 1:00-3:30-6:10-8:45
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 1:20-3:40
Oppenheimer (R) 12:30-4:20-8:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:20-3:20
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:40-3:30-6:20-9:00
Jawan (Hindi) 1:10-4:50-8:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 8:40
Haunted Mansion (PG-13) 6:00
The Nun II (R) 12:10-2:50-5:40-6:30-8:10-9:00
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:00-12:50-3:00-7:20
Bottoms (R) 12:00-2:10-4:30-6:40-8:50
Mar3y El Breemo 2:20-5:00-7:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 5:10

Regal Fox & IMAX
22875 Brambleton Plaza
Mastaney (Punjabi) 3:05-6:45-10:10
Jailer (Tamil) 12:50-5:15-9:25
Jawan (Hindi) 12:10-4:45-9:05
Jawan (Telugu) 1:20-9:45
Jawan (Tamil) 5:50
The Nun II (R) 12:20-3:15-6:00-9:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:05-3:15-6:25-9:35
Gadar 2 (Hindi) 2:30-6:10-9:55
Kushi (Telugu) 1:15-5:30-9:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:50
Bottoms (R) 12:25-3:20-6:25-9:15
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 12:30-4:50-8:30
Jawan: The IMAX 2D Experience 2:45-6:30-10:15
Barbie (PG-13) 3:30-6:35-9:40
The Nun II (R) 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:55-4:00-7:00-10:00

Regal Kingstowne & RPX
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center
Barbie (PG-13) 12:55-3:25-6:20-8:50
Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) 2:20
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:15-2:30
Oppenheimer (R) 12:05-3:40-7:15
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:25-4:10-6:55
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:45-3:10-4:10-5:35-6:35-8:20-9:05
Elemental (PG) 1:45
Jawan (Hindi) 12:00-3:25
Jawan (Telugu) 4:20-7:40
Jawan (Tamil) 1:00
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 1:15-4:05-7:05
The Nun II (R) 6:50-9:15
Kushi (Telugu) 12:20-3:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:50-3:00-7:20
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 4:45-8:05
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:25
Jawan (Hindi) 2:00-5:20-7:20-8:40
The Nun II (R) 12:10-3:05-6:05-9:00; 2:10-5:05-5:55-8:00-8:30
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) OC: 5:10

Regal Manassas & IMAX
11380 Bulloch Drive
Barbie (PG-13) 12:20-3:20-6:10-8:50
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 11:40-2:20
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani 3:50-7:50
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 4:50-8:10
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:30-3:30-6:20-8:50
Jawan (Hindi) 11:50-3:40-7:30
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 11:00-2:10
The Nun II (R) 12:10-3:05-5:20-5:50-8:40
Kushi (Telugu) 4:15-7:55
The Hill (PG) 11:45-2:40-5:40-8:40
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:20-1:50-4:10-6:30-8:50
Bottoms (R) 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:40
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 11:20-3:10-6:40
The Nun II: The IMAX 2D Experience (R) 1:10-4:05-7:00
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (PG-13) 11:05-1:40
Sound of Freedom (PG-13) 12:00
The Nun II (R) 8:00

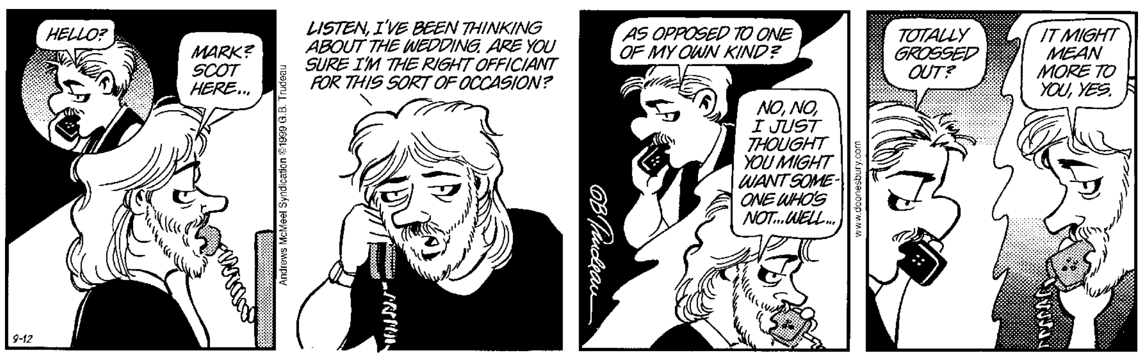
Regal Springfield Town Center
6859 Springfield Mall
Barbie (PG-13) 12:10-3:05-6:05-9:40
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:50-3:35-6:25
Oppenheimer (R) 11:55-4:10-8:00
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 12:05-3:20-6:50-9:50
The Equalizer 3 (R) 12:00-12:40-1:20-3:00-3:40-4:20-6:00-6:40-7:20-9:00-9:30-10:10
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 12:05-3:15-6:30-9:35
The Nun II (R) 12:30-1:10-3:30-4:00-6:30-7:00-10:00-10:30
Talk to Me (R) 9:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 1:50-4:40-7:10-9:40
Bottoms (R) 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:50-10:20

Regal Virginia Gateway & RPX
8001 Gateway Promenade Place
Barbie (PG-13) 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) 12:20-2:30
Oppenheimer (R) 11:00-3:00-6:20-10:20
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00
The Equalizer 3 (R) 11:40-2:20-5:00-7:40-10:15
Elemental (PG) 12:00
Jawan (Hindi) 11:30-3:10-6:50-8:30-10:25
Gran Turismo: Based On a True Story (PG-13) 6:00-9:20
The Nun II (R) 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
The Hill (PG) 2:50
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 11:10-1:50-3:20-4:40-6:15-7:10-9:50
Bottoms (R) 1:20-3:50-7:20-10:00
Miss Shetty Mr Polishetty (Telugu) 9:10
The Nun II (R) 11:30-12:30-3:30-5:30-6:30-9:30

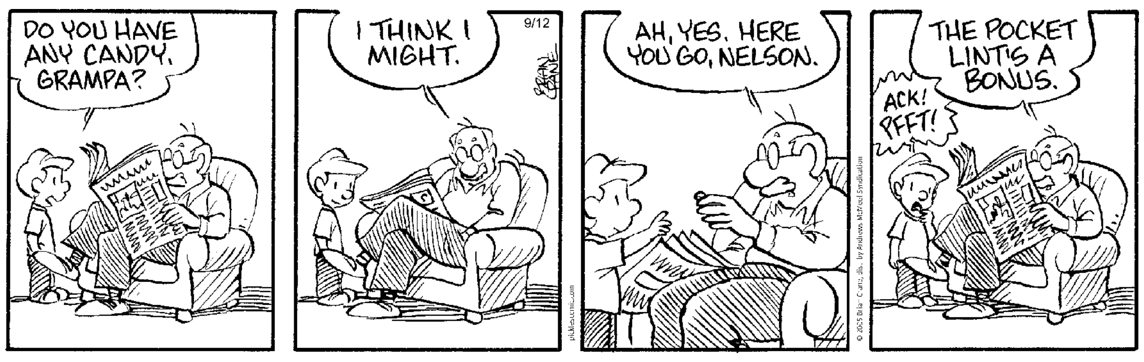
Smithsonian - Airbus IMAX Theater
14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway
Journey to Space (NR) 10:20-1:05-3:50-5:00
Aircraft Carrier: Guardian of the Seas 12:25-4:25
To Fly! (1976) (NR) 10:55-1:45-3:15
Blue Planet (Il pianeta azzurro) (NR) 11:30AM
The Dream is Alive (NR) 2:25

University Mall Theatres
10659-A Braddock Road
Barbie (PG-13) 2:40-5:00-7:30
Blue Beetle (PG-13) 1:00-4:00-7:00
Elemental (PG) 12:20
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (PG-13) 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:15

CLASSIC DOONESBURY
GARRY TRUDEAU



PICKLES
BRIAN CRANE



BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH (D)
♠ K 5 2
♥ A J 3
♦ K 7 3
♣ K Q 8 2

WEST
♠ Q J 10 9
♥ 6 5 4
♦ 8 4
♣ 9 6 5 3

EAST
♠ A 8 7 3
♥ 8 7
♦ J 10 9 6
♣ A J 10

SOUTH
♠ 6 4
♥ K Q 10 9 2
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 7 4

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 NT	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	All Pass		

Opening lead — ♠ Q

"We strip to make ends meet." — sign at an electrician's shop.

Society's biggest problems, I've heard, are making ends meet and making meetings end. Today's declarer failed to make ends meet — and had to attend a meeting after the play.

At four hearts, South ruffed the third spade and cashed the A-K of trumps. He next took the A-K of diamonds and led a third diamond to his queen. West ruffed, and East got his ace of clubs. Down one.

Commenced the meeting, with North presiding.

"You blew it," North stated.

"I'm safe," South protested, "if diamonds break 3-3 or if the defender with four diamonds has the missing trump."

South can reverse the dummy. He leads a club at Trick Four. Say East captures dummy's king and returns the jack to dummy. South then ruffs a club and takes the K-A of trumps.

When East-West follow, South ruffs dummy's last club. He leads a diamond to dummy, draws the missing trump and wins the last two tricks with the A-Q of diamonds.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:
♠ A 8 7 3 ♥ 8 7
♦ J 10 9 6 ♣ A J 10

Your partner opens one diamond, you respond one spade and he bids two hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your partner has "reversed" and promises extra strength — in some styles, enough strength for game. If he has 2, A K 5 2, A K Q 7 2, 7 6 5, he will be a favorite at six diamonds, and not many players would deem that hand worth a reverse. Jump to four diamonds to alert partner to your slam possibilities.

— Frank Stewart

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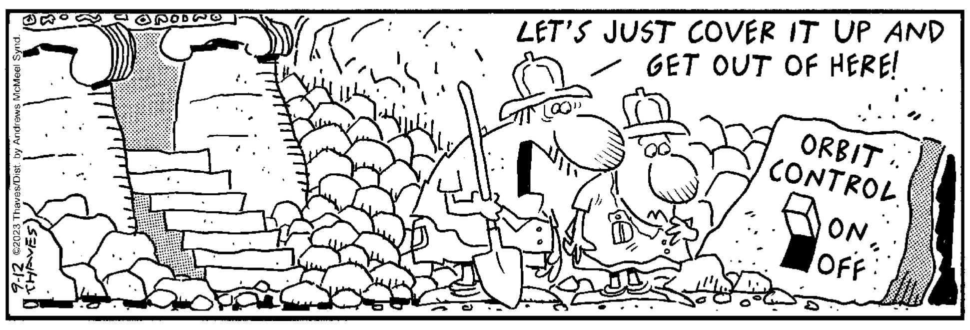
RED AND ROVER
BRIAN BASSET



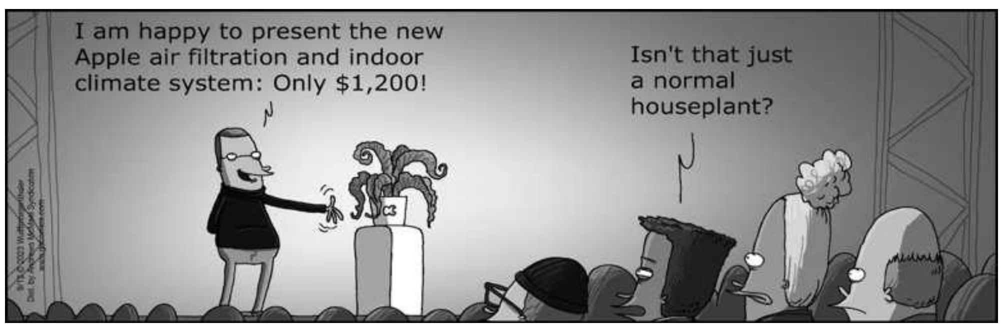
AGNES
TONY COCHRAN



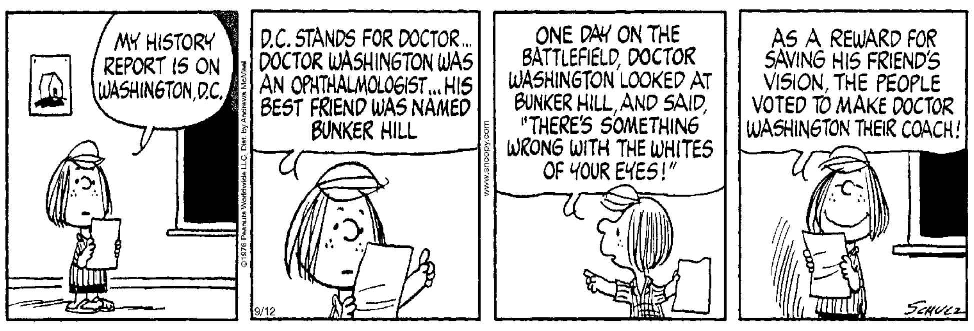
FRANK AND ERNEST
TOM THAVES



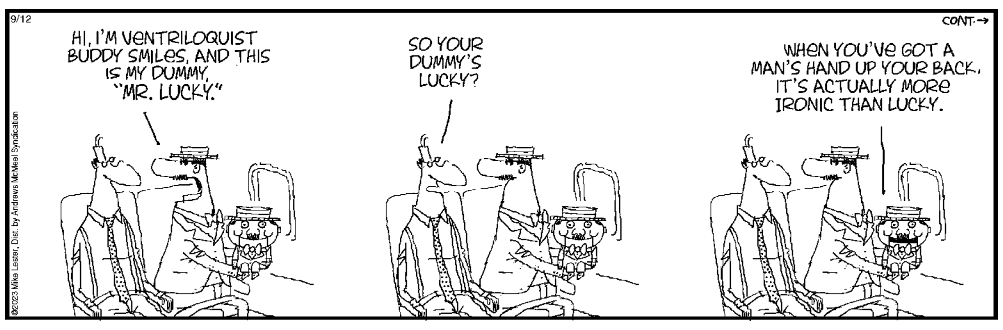
WUMO
MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER



CLASSIC PEANUTS
CHARLES SCHULZ



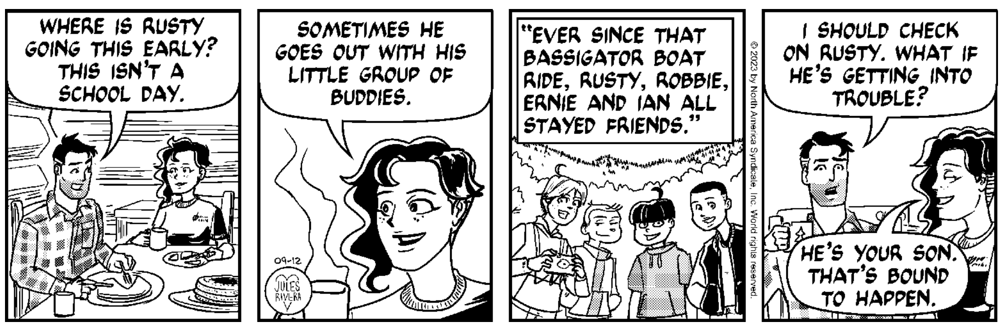
MIKE DU JOUR
MIKE LESTER



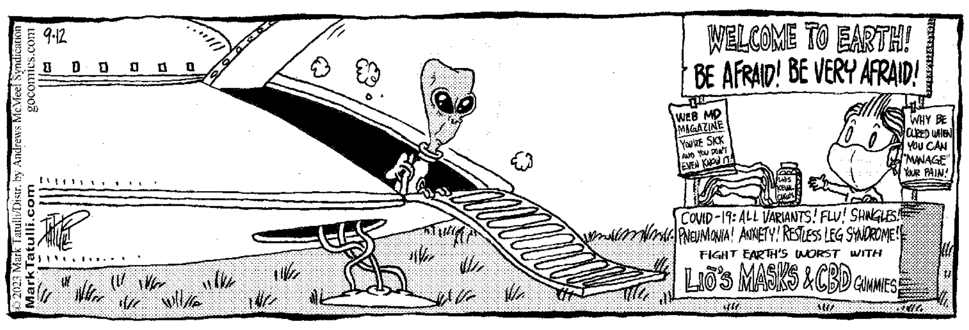
RHYMES WITH ORANGE
HILARY PRICE



MARK TRAIL
JULES RIVERA



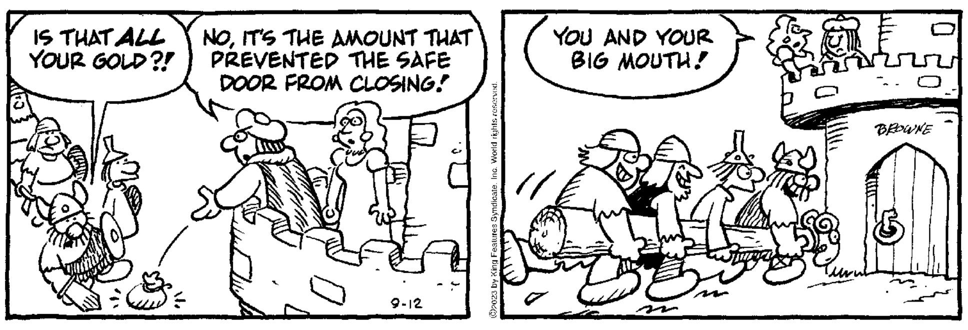
LIO
MARK TATULLI



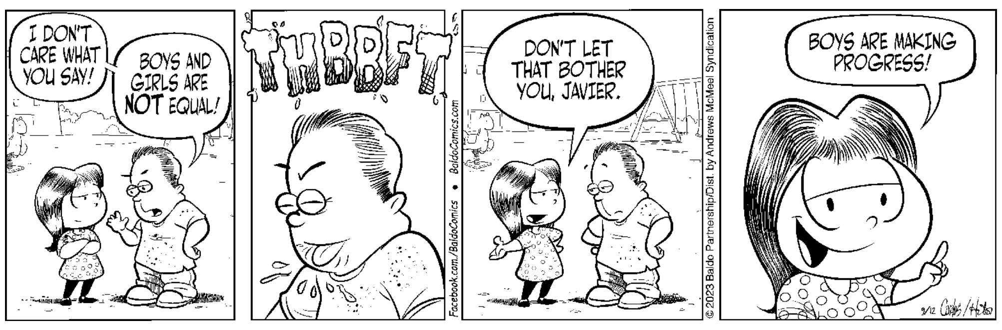
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM
MIKE PETERS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
CHRIS BROWNE



BALDO
HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS



BLONDIE
DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



SALLY FORTH
FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

				3	7		6	8
	1		6	2	8	4		
7							3	
6	3				9		2	
5	2			1		7	9	
9			5			6	1	
2							7	
		7	2	9	4		8	
9	8		7	6				

9/12

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

SCRABBLE GRAMS

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Rack 1: A₁ E₁ O₁ C₃ N₁ D₂ G₂ — 3rd Letter Triple

Rack 2: E₁ I₁ U₁ D₂ G₂ L₁ R₁

Rack 3: A₁ E₁ I₁ L₁ F₄ B₃ L₁

Rack 4: A₁ Y₄ P₃ F₄ L₁ R₁ T₁ — Double Word Score

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 217

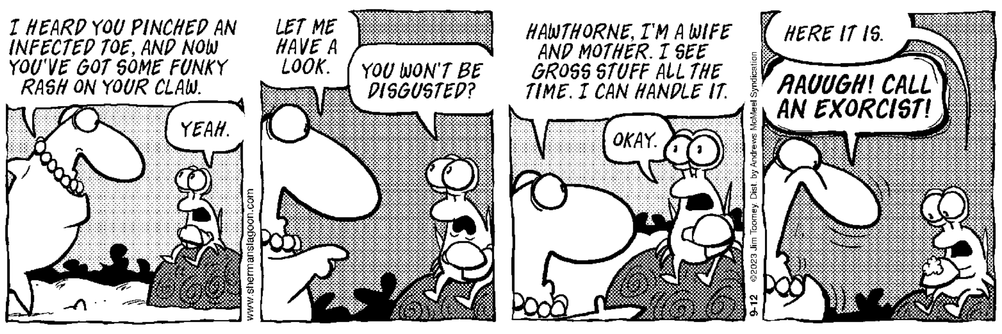
FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

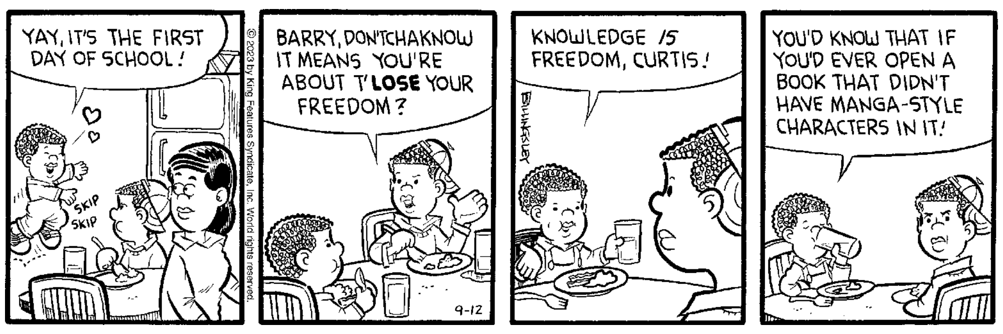
For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

09-12

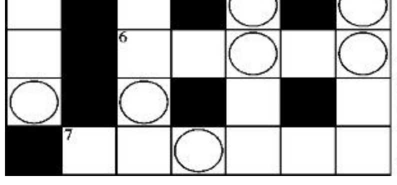
SHERMAN'S LAGOON
JIM TOOMEY



CURTIS
RAY BILLINGSLEY



JUMBLE CROSSWORDS
by David L. Hoyt



9-12-23

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. ____ list	KTBCUE
5. Australian marsupial	LAAKO
6. Mary ____ Moore	EYRTL
7. Swapped	RADDET

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. ____ soda	BNGAIK
2. ____ school	RCAEHTR
3. Empowered	DABELEN
4. Trapped	SAEDRN

How to play
Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

BONUS

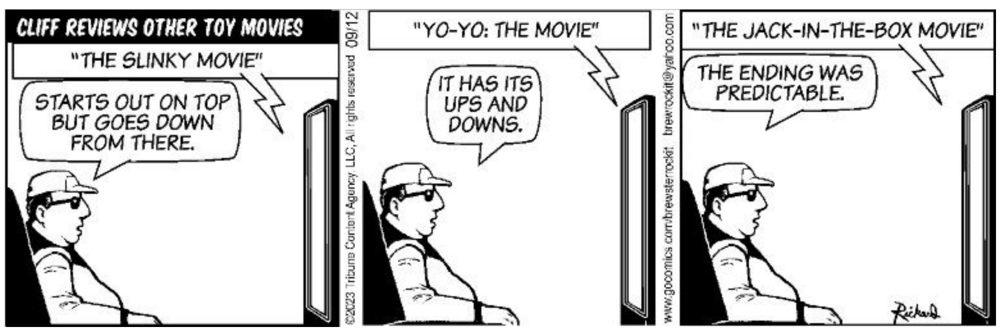
CLUE: He was accidentally listed as a female on his birth certificate.

ANSWERS: 1A-Bucket 5A-Koala 6A-Tyler 7A-Traded 1D-Baking 2D-Charter 3D-Enabled 4D-Snared B-Clark Gable

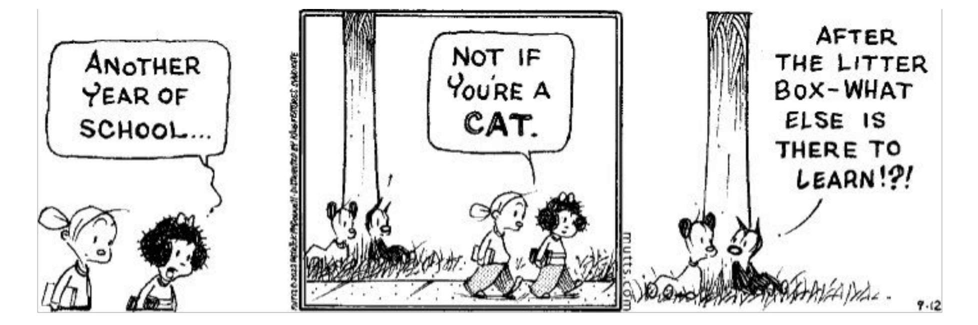
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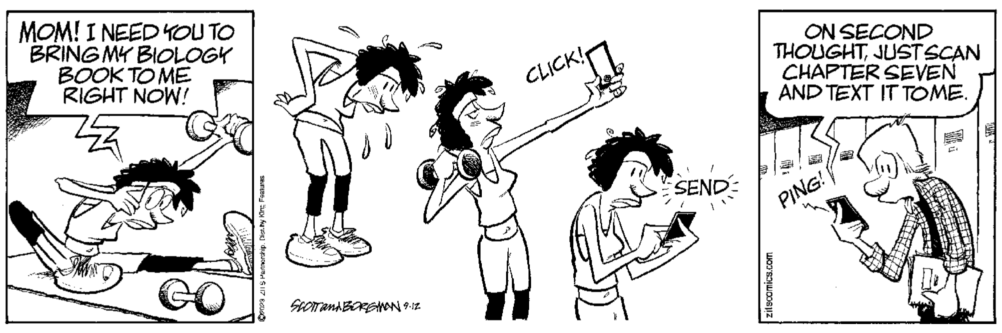
BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!
TIM RICKARD



MUTTS PATRICK McDONNELL



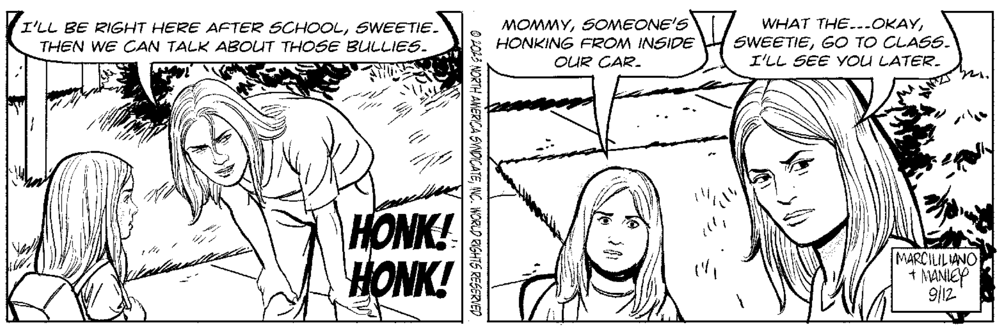
ZITS JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN



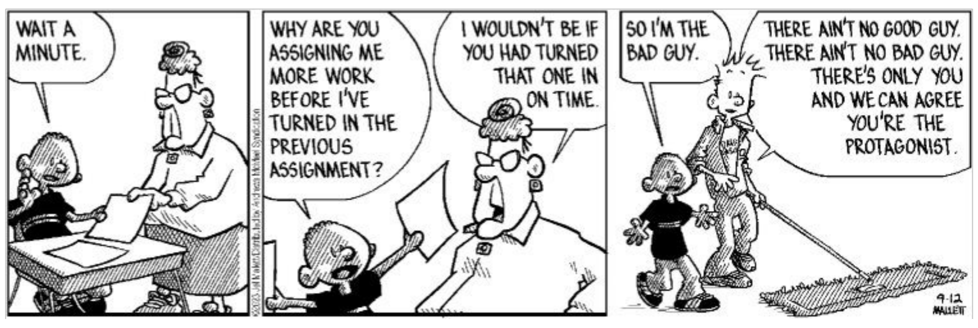
HEART OF THE CITY STEENZ



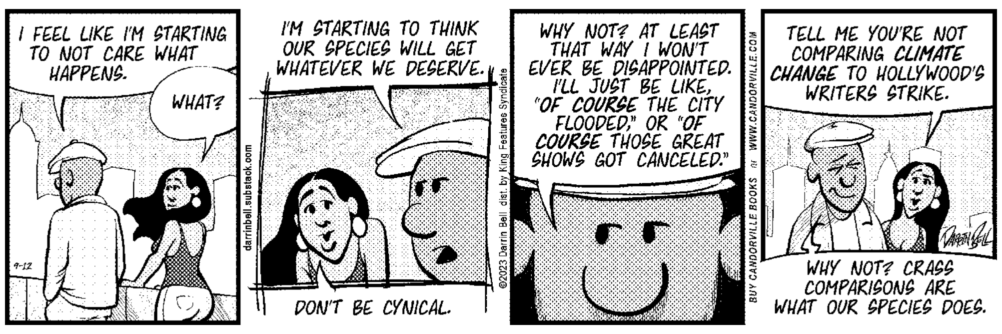
JUDGE PARKER FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY



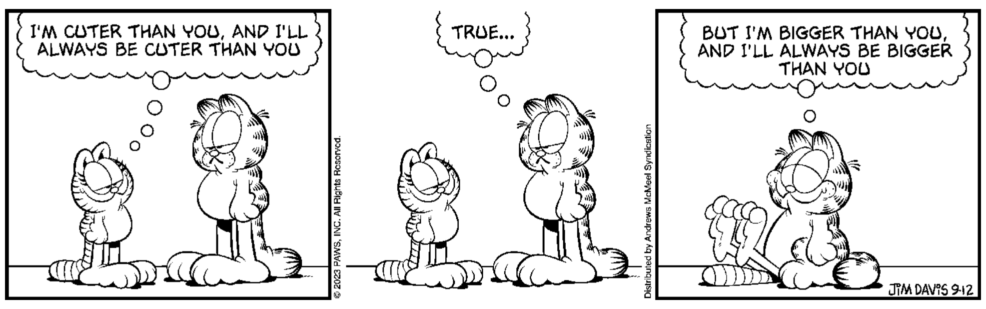
FRAZZ JEF MALLETT



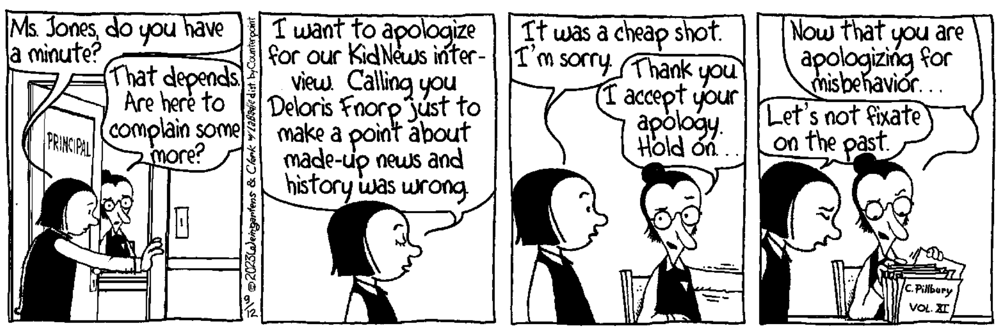
CANDORVILLE DARRIN BELL



GARFIELD JIM DAVIS



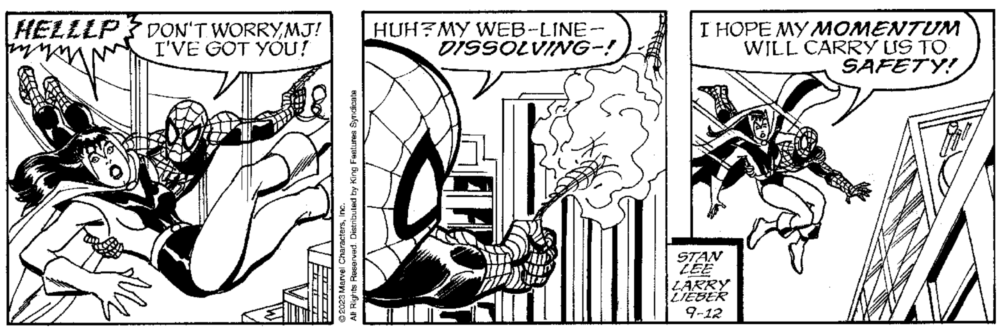
BARNEY AND CLYDE WEINGARTENS & CLARK



DUSTIN STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN STAN LEE & ALEX SAVIUK



PRICKLY CITY SCOTT STANTIS



LOOSE PARTS DAVE BLAZEK



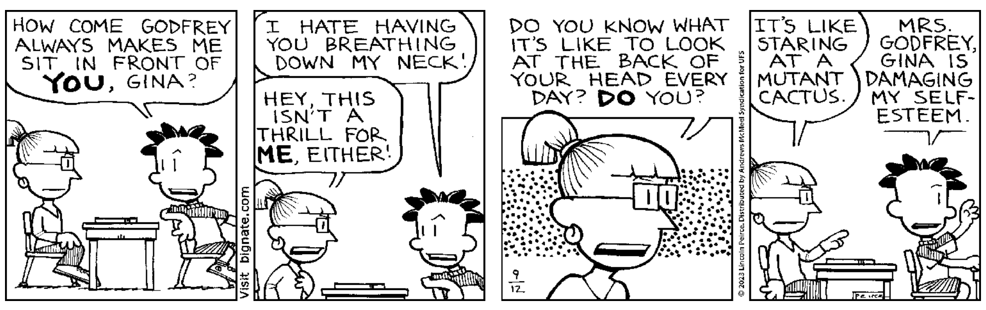
NON SEQUITUR WILEY



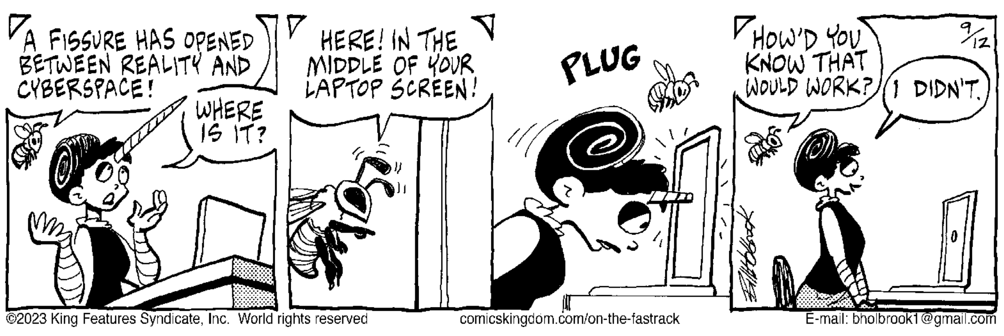
BABY BLUES RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



BIG NATE LINCOLN PEIRCE

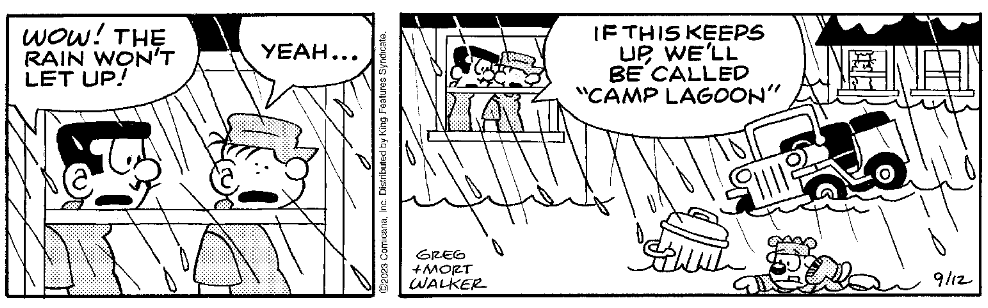


ON THE FASTRACK BILL HOLBROOK

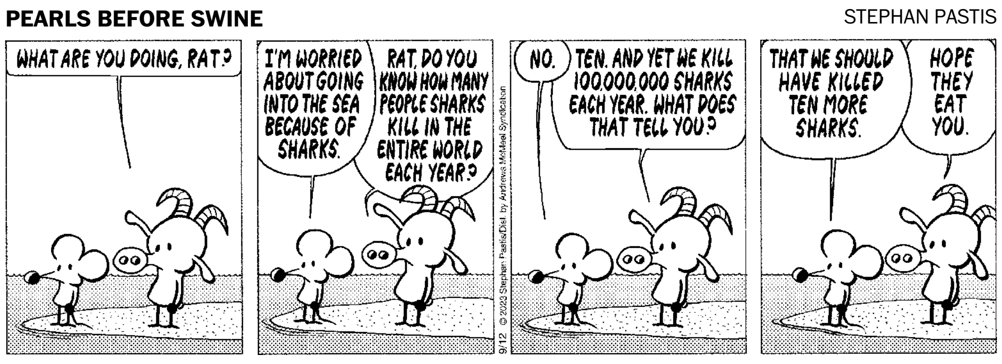


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BEETLE BAILEY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE STEPHAN PASTIS



HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | SEPTEMBER 12

You are energetic and idealistic. You want to help and educate others. Be careful of being overwhelmed. This year is the beginning of a new nine-year cycle for you. It's time for action and initiative. What you do now will benefit your future. Prepare for leadership.

Moon Alert: Caution: Avoid shopping or important decisions after 11 a.m. today. After that, the Moon moves from Leo into Virgo.

ARIES
(MARCH 21-APRIL 19).
You are a creative sign, which is why you have so many hobbies. Although this is a poor day for shopping (except for food and gas) and important decisions, it's an excellent day to pursue the arts and express your creative talents.

TAURUS
(APRIL 20-MAY 20).
This is the perfect day to take it easy. Enjoy schmoozing with others. Explore picnics, barbecues, art galleries, museums and relaxing with friends. Don't shop (except for food and gas).

GEMINI
(MAY 21-JUNE 20).
This is the perfect day to cocoon and relax at home among familiar surroundings. You might enjoy sports and activities that are physically competitive. It's a playful and creative day.

CANCER
(JUNE 21-JULY 22).
Be careful. There's a Moon Alert for most of today that takes place in your Money House (for your sign). You'll be tempted to shop and buy things for yourself and others. Don't do this.

LEO
(JULY 23-AUG. 22).
Today the Moon continues to be in your sign, as it does for two and a half days every month; however, most of today is a Moon Alert. This means it's a wonderful day to socialize, schmooze and appreciate the arts.

VIRGO
(AUG. 23-SEPT. 22).
Today you're strong and forthright because the Sun and Mercury are in your sign. Nevertheless, you might have little nigglings in the back of your mind that create self-doubt and make you second-guess yourself.

LIBRA
(SEPT. 23-OCT. 22).
Today has contradictory influences. In one way, you want to be low-key. However, in another way, you want to get out there and socialize, especially with creative people. You can do both.

SCORPIO
(OCT. 23-NOV. 21).
Be careful today. There is a Moon Alert taking place at the top of your chart, which means important conversations with bosses and people in authority could be confusing and might amount to nothing.

SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21).
Today you might have wild and wonderful ideas about travel plans. Don't act on them. You can do your homework and gather data, but wait until tomorrow to put anything into action. Avoid important decisions and shopping.

CAPRICORN
(DEC. 22-JAN. 19).
You might be tempted to make important decisions about inheritances, wills and anything to do with shared property or banking matters. Please note: This is a very poor day to do this. Wait until tomorrow. Avoid spending money, except for food and gas.

AQUARIUS
(JAN. 20-FEB. 18).
Although you might have a frank, heart-to-heart talk with a partner or close friend today, be smart and agree to nothing important. Furthermore, don't hold anyone else to whatever they say today either. This is a goofy day! Avoid shopping as well – except for food and gas.

PISCES
(FEB. 19-MARCH 20).
Shortages, delays and silly mistakes might plague your work today. That's because this is a poor day for important decisions. However, it's a very creative day because you can think outside the box. Don't spend money, except for food or gas.

— Georgia Nicols

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PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

4	6	3	7	2	5	8	1	9
9	7	2	8	3	1	5	6	4
1	8	5	9	6	4	3	2	7
5	2	4	6	8	9	1	7	3
7	9	8	5	1	3	6	4	2
3	1	6	2	4	7	9	5	8
8	3	7	1	5	2	4	9	6
6	5	9	4	7	8	2	3	1
2	4	1	3	9	6	7	8	5

PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

D_2	E_1	A_1	D_2	P_3	A_1	N_1	RACK 1 =	61
H_4	O_1	R_1	R_1	I_1	D_2		RACK 2 =	10
B_3	U_1	O_1	Y_4	A_1	N_1	T_1	RACK 3 =	63
F_4	R_1	E_1	C_3	K_5	L_1	E_1	RACK 4 =	98

PAR SCORE 145-155 TOTAL 232

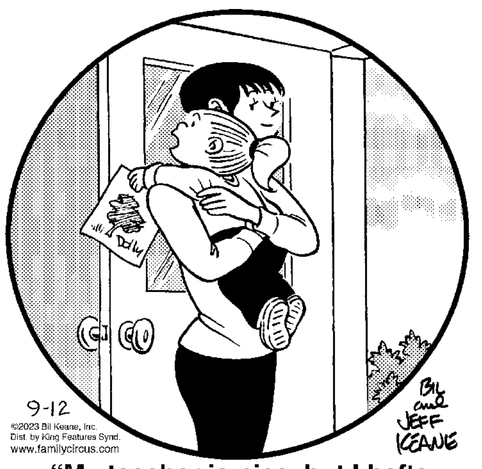
SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY



DENNIS THE MENACE H. KETCHAM


"REALLY, GEORGE? HIS MIDDLE NAME IS 'CHAOS'? HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO THINK OF THAT?"

FAMILY CIRCUS BIL KEANE


"My teacher is nice, but I hafta share her with too many other kids."

REPLY ALL LITE DONNA A. LEWIS



‘Sorry/Not Sorry’ documentary puts women at center stage

LOUIS C.K. FROM C1

them as people who you might be friends with or might know,” Caroline Suh, who directed the film with Cara Mones, told The Washington Post after the screening. “This is all very, ‘They’re not victims.’”

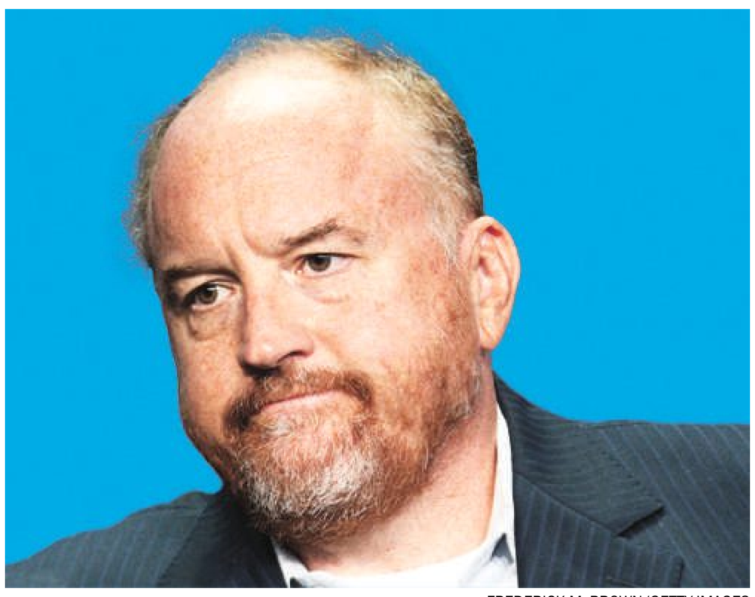
Anyone looking for explosive new allegations about C.K. won’t find them here. In many ways, the film is instead an exploration about how sexual harassment isn’t black and white, how it can really happen to anyone, and how, just because C.K. hasn’t been accused of drugging and raping multiple women, as Bill Cosby has been, doesn’t make what he did okay. (C.K. admitted that “these stories are true” in a written response the day after the article came out.)

Suh, who’s part of Gen X, said that when she first started exploring the topic, she wrestled with her generation’s tolerance of bad behavior by men. “When the New York Times story came out, I was surprised, and I also, to be honest, which I’m not proud of, was like: ‘Is it that bad? I don’t know,’” Suh said. (The film features many comedians talking about how C.K. didn’t touch the women and asked permission before masturbating.) It was through those conversations that she brought on Mones, who calls herself “a geriatric millennial,” for a different perspective.

The question isn’t about how bad it is or whether C.K. masturbating in front of women was legal, Mones said. “It’s: ‘Was this fair? Is it fair to subject people to this behavior?’ … It doesn’t really matter how traumatic something is. It’s just not okay.”

The film’s premiere at Toronto isn’t a coincidence. The festival hosted the splashy 2017 premiere of C.K.’s risqué “I Love You, Daddy,” in which he starred in and directed what is essentially a treatise about men in entertainment getting away with terrible behavior — the only time it played publicly. “It’s a way of making up for something that we wished we knew in 2017,” Thom Powers, director of the festival’s documentary team, told The Post.

The Monday morning after the screening, an announcement went out that the film had been acquired by Greenwich Entertainment and will be released next year, after getting dropped by Showtime during company restructuring. C.K. did not respond to requests for comment in the film — or to The Post’s request via his lawyer at the time of publication.



FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES

Comedian Louis C.K., seen in 2017, is the subject of a documentary that screened at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Rather than start with C.K. or a summary of what happened to him, the film instead opens in the New York apartment of artist and comedian Abby Schachner as she hangs out with her dog and puts on a comically large number of cardigans to leave the house. “This is how you keep the men away,” she jokes.

Schachner told the Times that she’d called C.K. to invite him to a show and could hear him close the blinds and masturbate while she was on the phone with him. A couple of months later, world-famous comedian Dave Chappelle made fun of Schachner, saying she has “a brittle-ass spirit” in his December 2017 Netflix special, for noting that her encounter with C.K. is part of what destroyed her comedy dreams. “B----, you don’t know how to hang up a phone?” Chappelle said. “How the f--- are you going to survive in show business if this is an actual obstacle to your dreams?”

The most prominent new interview in the film is with comedian Jen Kirkman. She’s considered the first woman in the comedy world to talk publicly about C.K.’s behavior, but when the Times approached her in 2017, she says in the film, she didn’t feel as if what she’d experienced measured up, or like she wanted to dredge it up again. He hadn’t masturbated in front of *her*, after all.

For a long time, she says in the film, she’d considered C.K. a friend, and even a bit of a mentor, but she’d noticed a pattern of creepy behavior over the years that had made her uncomfortable: asking her what she’d do if a guy asked to pull his penis out in front of her, which she thought was a bit at the time, and putting his hand on the back of her neck and whispering that they’d “f--- someday.” She was in her early 20s during the encounters with C.K. and didn’t have a baseline for what was acceptable behavior, especially in the comedy world. Maybe this was just how it was. “It’s not like when it’s happening you’re taking notes because you’re going to talk about this 25 years from now,” she said.

One day, in 2015, frustrated with reviews that called her stand-up act “dirty,” she went on her podcast, which she says had maybe 1,000 listeners, and talked about how perverted men in the industry get away with things all the time — and how she had even turned down a chance to go on the road with a famous comedian because she’d heard rumors about his sexual misconduct. The podcast got picked up, with articles immediately linking Kirkman’s comments to C.K., and she says the subsequent harassment stopped her from talking about it more, or relaying her own experience.

Privately, she said, C.K. called her, and they had a rational conversation about how to handle it. She agreed with him that it would be best not to talk about it more and deleted the podcast. For years, she did fewer interviews for her comedy work than she wanted to, because the media would talk to her only if she talked about C.K. At one point, she said publicly that she hadn’t been referencing C.K. “I just needed it to stop,” she says in the film.

Other powerful interviews include comedian and writer Megan Koester, who spoke about how the comedy world protected C.K. She relays the story about how she went on the red carpet for the 2015 Just For Laughs festival in Montreal — the biggest in comedy — and asked A-listers to comment on the C.K. rumors, only to get yelled at by Bruce Hillis, the festival’s chief operating officer, for attacking “a friend of the festival,” to the point where he made her cry. (Hillis defended himself in a statement to Vice.) She has retreated from comedy and sells things on eBay to make ends meet.

Also in the film are men reckoning with their complicity. Noam Dworman, owner of the Comedy Cellar, reflects on why he let C.K. back onstage for the first time nine months after the article came out. (He said in the film that it wasn’t his place to police people who wanted to pay to come and see C.K. “in a free country.”) Comedian Michael Ian Black discusses his controversial, now-deleted tweet defending C.K.’s return and musing about when we could start talking about a path to redemption for canceled men. Perhaps the most reflective is “Parks and Recreation” creator Michael Schur, who talks about how he heard rumors about C.K. after he’d played a guest part on the show, then invited him back anyway. “The fact that I thought it wasn’t my problem is exactly the problem,” he said.



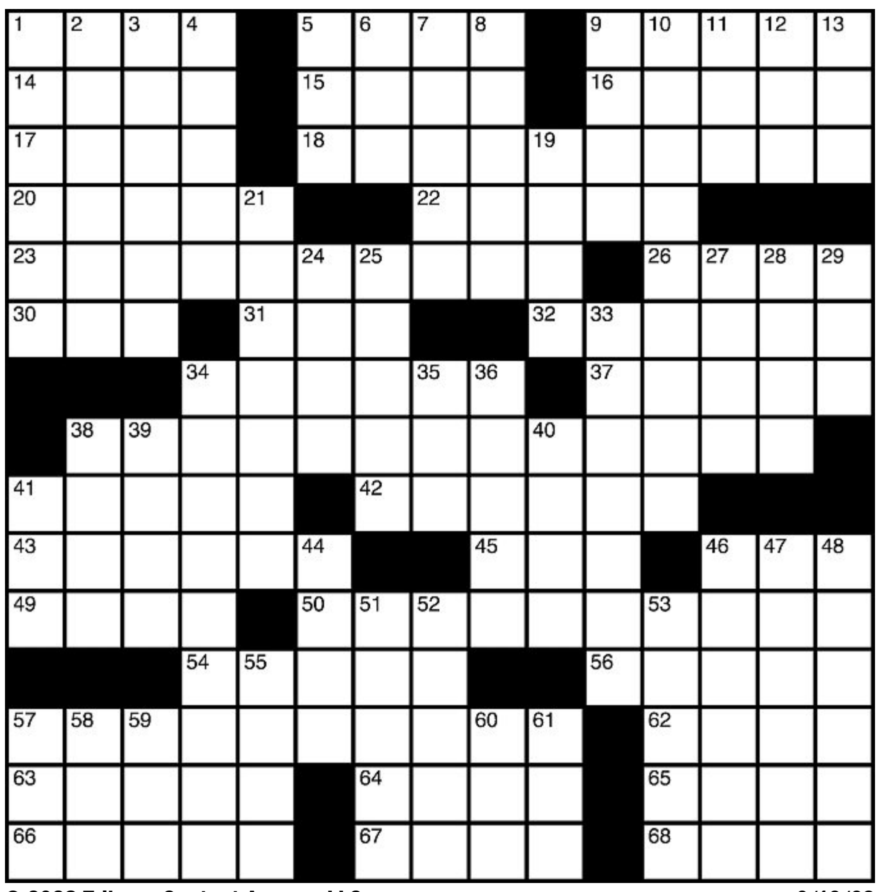
HAROLD FENG/GETTY IMAGES

From left, director-producers Cara Mones and Caroline Suh and producer Kathleen Lingo attend the “Sorry/Not Sorry” premiere at TIFF on Sunday. “We wanted to show [the women] as people who you might be friends with or might know,” Suh said.

Notably absent from the film, though, are several women prominent in the article, including comedy duo Dana Min Goodman and Julia Wolov, who told the Times that C.K. got naked and masturbated in front of them after inviting them to his hotel room during the Aspen Comedy Festival. As Suh explains, the women expressed just wanting to get on with their work, for C.K.’s misconduct not to be the only thing they’re known for. (Schachner jokes that it’ll be in her obituary.)

“We’re looking back at the #MeToo movement now in the rearview mirror and everyone’s always asking: ‘Are things better? Are things worse?’” said producer Kathleen Lingo, who works for the Times. “It’s really hard to have a blanket assessment, but just the fact that the women who felt a sense of promise at that moment now don’t feel it anymore — I think is quite stark.”

LA TIMES CROSSWORD By Susan Gelfand



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ACROSS

1 Skyline obscurer
5 Slight fabrications
9 Lengthy exam answer
14 Afghanistan’s __ Bora region
15 Wrinkle remover
16 Teatime treat
17 Condo division
18 *Food stalls offering filled tortillas
20 Liberated
22 Meaner than mean
23 *Kits that include pots for melting cheese or chocolate
26 Verdi opera about an African princess
30 As of now
31 Rodent that followed the Pied Piper
32 Finalized, as a deal
34 Relishes
37 Indiana NBA player
38 *1933 comedy starring Marie Dressler and John Barrymore
41 Treasury secretary Yellen
42 __ Berry Farm: Southern California amusement park
43 High regard
45 “Let’s call __ day”
46 Heat in the microwave
49 Norse god of thunder
50 *Ingredient amount in a recipe for paella or risotto
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56 Therefore
57 Unexpected charges, and a feature of the answers to the starred clues
62 Over again
63 Relating to birds
64 Rights org. since 1920
65 Checkout queue
66 Marriott rival
67 Car roof with removable panels
68 Life partner

DOWN

1 In need of some fresh air
2 “Some Like It Hot” star Marilyn
3 Get situated
4 Like some private communities
5 In shape
6 Nest egg letters
7 Italian bowling game
8 Pig sound
9 East, in Spanish
10 Rascals
11 Prodigal __
12 “Wait, there’s more”
13 “You bet!”
19 Figure (out)
21 Vaudeville legend Jimmy
24 Roof edge
25 Bird on birth announcements
27 Snowfall accumulation unit
28 Song for two
29 Tax-paying mo.
33 Words set in stone?
34 Looked down on
35 Competed in a sprint, say
36 Unflappable
38 Sprinter’s race
39 Enamored of
40 Caesar’s rebuke
41 Airport arrival
44 Eve’s opposite
46 Colorful annual
47 Regional manner of speech
48 Baseball Hall of Famer Reese
51 Like some lean dairy products
52 Put into office
53 Domain
55 Landlord’s income
57 “A likely story!”
58 Climbing vine
59 Day in Durango
60 “Xanadu” rock gp.
61 “How’s it goin’?”

MONDAY’S LA TIMES SOLUTION

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NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Boyfriend fears his girlfriend’s stepdad is emotionally abusive



Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

Hi, Carolyn: My girlfriend and I are both in college. We have been together for eight months and love each other very much. But I’m a little worried that she is emotionally abused by her stepdad, and I don’t know what to do about it.

Examples: He monitors and criticizes my girlfriend’s weight when she is at home, calls her and her mom [glass bowls] and says he is smarter than they are because of the college he went to, and has said my girlfriend is “a guest” in his house. He makes light of anxiety issues she has. She doesn’t have a bank account and is reliant on his credit card, but he threatens to withhold or offer money — like, thousands of dollars — depending on whether she goes along with his preferences on things such as which major she chooses. Once, when I visited her house, he offered to let me drive an expensive car he has — even though my girlfriend is prohibited from ever driving it. His offering me the keys in front of her made me feel gross, like he was belittling her. (I passed on driving the car.)

What is going on here? Is this emotional abuse? What can I do about it as a boyfriend that won’t make things worse? My girlfriend says she hates him but feels stuck because he has threatened to stop paying for college if she does something wrong.

— A Boyfriend

A Boyfriend: Oh, wow. Yes, this checks about every box for emotional abuse. Belittling, shaming, controlling, financial strong-arming: It’s a buffet of abuses of his power over her.

Please remind her that there are resources to help her navigate this. It’s a difficult problem — I won’t minimize it — but that is not the same as her being helpless or stuck.

Typically, a college’s counseling service is the most accessible option, but many are stretched beyond their capacity. Still, yours may not be. Without pushing, see whether your girlfriend is up to making an appointment. Return thereafter to your listener role, regardless of her answer.

This hinges on the college’s resources in another way, but she can speak to a financial aid adviser to learn of any options for cutting ties to an abusive parent. It’s a big if, but she won’t know whether help is available until she starts asking for it.

The next place to turn is solid, free and available on short notice: the National Domestic Violence Hotline, *thehotline.org*. It’s not on-the-ground like the school can be, but the hotline staff can do the crucial work of explaining why the stepfather’s behavior is abusive, what the risks are and what she can do to mitigate them.

She’d be wise to get a job, even a tiny one, and a bank account for her earnings.

I’m so glad you asked this and have shown her such love and respect. This says good things not only about you, but also about her: It’s a sign her “picker” still works, despite her exposure to abuse tactics at home. That she chose someone supportive is a ray of light from an otherwise dark situation.

Write to Carolyn Hax at *tellme@washpost.com*. Get her column delivered to your inbox each morning at *wapo.st/gethax*.

Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at *washingtonpost.com/live-chats*.

The Washington Post

SPORTS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 M2 D

Two blasts by Abrams boost Nats on the road

NATIONALS 6, PIRATES 2

BY ANDREW GOLDEN

PITTSBURGH — During batting practice before Monday night's game at PNC Park, Washington Nationals players took turns trying to launch home runs to right field, attempting to send a ball into the nearby Allegheny River.

CJ Abrams's last swing didn't send the ball flying out of the park; it landed in the seats instead. But moments later, he and Ildemaro Vargas mimicked their home run celebrations, saluting the dugout as they jumped together and ran around the bases.

Practice was prelude for Abrams, who blasted two home runs to right in the Nationals' 6-2 win over the Pittsburgh Pirates for the first multihomer game of the 22-year-old's career. The first, a two-run shot in the third inning, might have ended up in the water had it bounced off the concourse and not a yellow umbrella. The second, a solo blast in the seventh, was a line drive with an exit velocity of 111 mph that continued to rise nearly until the moment it slammed into the seats.

"Was just looking for my pitch," Abrams said. "Anything in the middle of the plate. And I got two good pitches to hit, and I didn't miss them."

Abrams provided a jolt to the Nationals' lineup Monday after he missed Sunday's home loss to the Los Angeles Dodgers. He banged his knee sliding into a base Saturday and sat out Sunday with a sore knee. He didn't miss a beat Monday.

"If you watch him take batting practice, it's in there," Manager Dave Martinez said of Abrams's power. ". . . He's giving himself a chance to hit every pitch hard. . . . When he really learns how to shrink the strike zone, he's going to be an all-star. He's going to be something else."

When Abrams jumped into the leadoff spot right before the all-star break, the move seemed to light a fire under him. He grew more patient, waiting for his pitch. His selectivity paid immediate dividends. Abrams hit .327, stole 16 bases and walked nine times in July.

He endured an August lull, hitting .223 for the month with just two walks, though the stolen bases (13) kept coming at nearly the same pace. But he entered Monday's game hitting .273 in September, and games such as Monday's could help fuel a strong finish to his first full major league season.

"You see him go through little struggles, but he sticks with it, and it just shows his maturity," first baseman Dominic Smith said. "We go as he goes. He's at

SEE NATIONALS ON D5

Nationals at Pirates
Today, 6:30 p.m., MASN2



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

The Cardinals' Carlos Watkins said of Sam Howell (14): "I thought he held up decent. . . . Just took the hits and kept moving."

ANALYSIS

Ground to make up

Commanders' offense struggled in Week 1, but there are reasons to think it will improve

BY SAM FORTIER

Commanders at Broncos
Sunday, 4:25 p.m., CBS

There are two ways of looking at the debut of the Washington Commanders' new-look offense.

The charitable way: The West Coast scheme relies on timing and spacing, which take time to hone, and growing pains were expected. Quarterback Sam Howell flashed playmaking promise, especially on his two touchdowns, and coordinator Eric Bieniemy adapted to the game flow by prioritizing the run late. The six sacks didn't expose an Achilles' heel, because the responsibility for them was split among blocking, Howell's occasionally lagging internal clock and, at least once, a combination of Howell and a longer-developing play call. All those issues are fixable, and as the offense coheres, Bieniemy will maximize everyone better and complement the strong defense. Give it time.

The uncharitable way: For all the talk of Bieniemy's attention to detail, the offense was not crisp in a near-loss to the Arizona Cardinals. Neither touchdown drive was impressive — the first fueled by defensive penalties and the second on a short field — and the unit gave away the ball three times. Bieniemy called 14 runs in the last 17 plays because he didn't trust the passing game. Given the ball at the Arizona 22-yard line with 4:38 to go and a

SEE COMMANDERS ON D2

On the NFL

ADAM KILGORE

The first Sunday of the season started slow. Only one team in the 1 p.m. games reached 20 points by halftime. Rain pelted fields. Defenses smothered offenses. But by day's end, the SoFi Stadium scoreboard had nearly melted from overuse, the Green Bay Packers had seemingly found a successor to 30 years of quarterbacking brilliance, and the Los Angeles Rams had come back from the dead. Here is what to know.

For openers, Tagovailoa and Dolphins are doing fine

The Dolphins have an outrageously unrelenting offense. Watching them, you get the sense that an earthquake could split the stadium in half, and Tua Tagovailoa would walk into the huddle, Mike McDaniel would send Tyreek Hill and Jaylen Waddle deep, and Tagovailoa would loft one of those lefty moonballs into space. Miami throws deep with more consistency, danger and abandon than any other team in the NFL.

The Dolphins' delirious brand of football

SEE ON THE NFL ON D3

Rodgers injured on first series

JETS 22, BILLS 16 (OT)

New York loses star QB, then wins on punt return

BY MARK MASKE

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Quarterback Aaron Rodgers suffered a left leg injury during the first offensive series of his regular season debut with the New York Jets on Monday night, leaving the field on a cart amid stunned disbelief from a previously raucous home crowd at MetLife Stadium.

The Jets announced that Rodgers suffered an ankle injury. They did not immediately offer further specifics but said he would not return to the game against the Buffalo Bills. The team also said X-rays were negative.

Jets Coach Robert Saleh said after the game there is concern that Rodgers suffered an Achilles' injury, pending the result of an MRI exam.

"It's not good," Saleh said.

Zach Wilson replaced Rodgers at quarterback during the Jets' opening drive.

The Jets, even without Rodgers, won in overtime, 22-16, on a 65-yard punt return for a touchdown by Xavier Gipson.

Bills quarterback Josh Allen threw three interceptions, all to Jets safety Jordan Whitehead, and lost a fumble. Zach Wilson threw a tying three-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Garrett Wilson with less than five minutes remaining in regulation. The Jets recovered Allen's fumble and converted it into a 30-yard field goal by Greg Zuerlein with less than two minutes left.

The Bills forced overtime with a 50-yard field goal by Tyler Bass with two seconds to play in regulation. The kick was good even after the ball struck the left upright.

Rodgers was injured while being sacked by Bills defensive end Leonard Floyd on the Jets' fourth offensive snap of the game. Rodgers stood briefly, then sat on the turf before rising to his feet and being helped to the sideline by members of the Jets' medical staff. He was taken to the medical tent before a cart arrived to take Rodgers to the locker room.

SEE JETS ON D3

PRO FOOTBALL

The Chiefs and DT Chris Jones reach agreement on a one-year deal, ending the star's holdout. **D2**

BASKETBALL

U.S. tops Ben Golliver's losers from the FIBA World Cup, where it finished a disappointing fourth. **D6**

At Olympics, neutrality is nothing but a cop-out



John Feinstein

It was a two-paragraph squib last week in many places: The World Aquatics Bureau announced that athletes from Russia and Belarus would be allowed to compete in international events — including the 2024 Paris Olympics — but *only* as "neutrals."

Oh, please.

This is the cop-out that most athletic governing bodies have taken since Russia invaded Ukraine 18 months ago. At least Wimbledon — in 2022 — actually banned Russian and Belarusian players from competing. In response, the men's and women's governing bodies of tennis fined England's Lawn Tennis Association and the All England Club more than $1 million and said players wouldn't accumulate rankings points at the tournament.

Oh, please.

Let's agree that determining whether to ban these athletes is a difficult decision. On one hand, they come from countries that are killing people on a daily basis.

On the other hand, the athletes didn't decide to go to war, and in most cases, few of us know where they stand politically because they are smart enough to keep their mouths shut.

If they publicly support the war, they are certain to be taken to task. If they come out against the war, it might not be safe for them to return home — and it could affect their families.

It's quite the conundrum. The easy way out for sports governing bodies is to take the

SEE FEINSTEIN ON D5

New U.S. left back is a Dane who has seal of approval



JOHN DORTON/ISI PHOTOS/U.S. SOCCER FEDERATION/GETTY IMAGES

Kristoffer Lund of Denmark could provide depth at a weak spot for the United States: left back.

BY STEVEN GOFF

ST. PAUL, MINN. — Kristoffer Lund's story must begin with seals, porpoises and sea otters.

Lund, 21, is the newest member of the U.S. men's national soccer team after making his debut Saturday in a friendly against Uzbekistan in St. Louis. He is from a Danish harbor village, the eldest of three children.

His father, a Dane named Klaus, sells construction equipment. His mother, Kirstin, is from Keystone in the Colorado Rockies, graduated from UC Santa Cruz and, some 25 years ago, moved to Denmark to continue work as a marine biologist.

She has researched sea life and worked with animals in Kerteminde, which sits on the eastern edge of Funen, the country's third-largest island.

SEE U.S. SOCCER ON D2

Friendly: Oman at United States
Today, 8:30 p.m., TNT

Lund could provide depth at left back for Americans

U.S. SOCCER FROM D1

Since birth, Kristoffer and his younger brother and sister were exposed to nature's wonders. If not for soccer, perhaps he would have followed the same path?

"Maybe, I mean, she would probably have loved it if I did so," Kristoffer said with a laugh. "I don't know. Me and my siblings have all been around this stuff for a long time. So it was very known in our lives, but I don't think we had the interests in marine biology like she does."

For many years, as his soccer aspirations have grown, Lund has not lived at home. But when he is back in Kerteminde, he visits his mother — and his mammal friends.

"I have hand-fed all of them," he said. "I like to go down to her work and do stuff with her because she works a lot."

Because his mother is American, Lund is American. Though he grew up in Denmark, he visited the United States often, skied in Colorado and learned English before his Danish friends.

Lund played for Danish youth national teams and, as recently as this summer, was in the mix for Denmark's under-21 program. With his dual nationality, he had been on the U.S. radar for two years. Coach Gregg Berhalter considered inviting him into training camp as 2022 World Cup preparation accelerated but didn't think he was ready for that level of competition.

This summer, as his second tenure as U.S. coach was beginning, Berhalter reached out. Lund accepted.

"I've actually thought of it for a long time, that the U.S. could be an option," Lund said. "And if it was possible, I was prepared to go that way."

Because he had played for Denmark, he needed approval from FIFA, soccer's global governing body, to permanently switch programs. That came late last week.

"Following the American team, there's just been a big breakthrough," he said in explaining the decision. "I also saw at the last World Cup how well they did. And also because of the players I will be associated with and train with are at a very high level. So with the opportunity for development and maybe to play in a World Cup, it would be a dream come true."

Lund is a left back, a position at which the U.S. program has lacked depth behind starter Antonee Robinson. Berhalter is seeking to strengthen the roster ahead of the 2026 World Cup, which will take place in the United States, Mexico and Canada.

"We think [Lund] could fill the void," Berhalter said. "That's something we've struggled at for a while. No one has really grabbed that second position. And we're seeing what he can do and if he can challenge for that spot."

Lund moved from home at age 13 to join the youth program at Danish club Midtjylland. Two years later, he signed his first pro contract.

His breakthrough came in 2021, when he signed with Swedish club Hacken. A league championship followed in 2022 and a cup trophy in spring 2023.



SCOTT ROVAK/USA TODAY SPORTS/REUTERS

Kristoffer Lund, right, made his debut for the U.S. national team in a friendly Saturday.

This summer, while starting regularly in league play, Lund started in four UEFA Champions League qualifiers and two UEFA Europa League qualifiers. His stock was rising, and last month, Hacken transferred him to Palermo, an Italian second-division club owned by Manchester City's parent company.

In his first Serie B appearances, he started in a 3-1 victory at Reggiana and came off the bench in a 3-0 victory over Ferapisalò.

Lund was then off to St. Louis for his first national team camp. With his family back home watching the friendly, Lund replaced Robinson in the 81st minute.

"When you're standing there on the sideline and you're waiting to get in, the emotions are screaming at you," he said. "But it was more when the game was over, I could take a step back and look around and say, 'Okay, I played my first game for the USA.' "

The U.S. team has several players with multiple nationalities, including Yunus Musah and Folarin Balogun, but Lund became the first Danish-born player to represent the United States since the 1950s, according to the U.S. Soccer Federation researcher Jeff Crandall.

The veteran players have welcomed him, Lund said.

"Of course, they didn't really know me before I came," Lund said. "So I've had to show my ability before they just accept me because we're here for one reason, and that's to win games."

Lund was invited to dinner with a small group of players Sunday night.

"Everybody that comes into camp really gets themselves into the group," attacker Brenden Aaronson said. "We're also very open and we always try to make everybody feel welcome. And that's what I think makes the group so special."

Notes: Midfielder Luca De La Torre, who broke his nose in the first half against Uzbekistan, wore a protective mask at training Monday. His availability against Oman is unclear. . . .

New England Revolution outside back DeJuan Jones was added to the roster, replacing Joe Scally, who left camp for family reasons. . . .

In a move planned before camp opened last week, Inter Miami goalkeeper Drake Callender joined the squad and Matt Turner, the starter against Uzbekistan, returned to his Premier League club, Nottingham Forest. Ethan Horvath, Turner's World Cup backup, will start against Oman, Berhalter said.



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Wide receiver Terry McLaurin said of quarterback Sam Howell, above, "He's going to learn and grow."

ANALYSIS

New offense has lot of room to improve

COMMANDERS FROM D1

one-point lead, Bieniemy didn't even try to put the Cardinals away with a touchdown, pounding the rock three straight times and taking the field goal. Coach Ron Rivera bet too big on unproven pieces in Howell, Bieniemy and the offensive line. It will never work.

For now, the fairest assessment skews charitable. It's one game with new faces in pivotal roles. Players and coaches know the 20-16 win was a bad first impression — "horrible," in the words of running back Antonio Gibson, who fumbled in the red zone. Players insisted the offense can be better Sunday at the Denver Broncos, and after reviewing the film Monday, Rivera seemed confident in the same belief.

"[It's] never as bad as you think and never as good as you think," Rivera said of Howell. "There were some really good things that happened; there were some really good rhythm stuff that was on. And then there was some things that were just kind of like, 'Ooh, why'd you do that?' "

Despite the small sample size, the opener did provide two concrete conclusions: Howell is tough, and Howell is resilient.

Those takeaways might seem trite but are important. Even though his teammates called him tough and resilient all summer and even though a few moments from his previous games suggested they were right, there is now real proof from a real game with stakes.

The toughness showed early. On the second drive, Cardinals linebacker Kyzir White delivered a late hit to Howell's helmet as he slid out of bounds. Howell bounced up, passed a concussion test and looked mostly poised as he kept the offense moving. He seemed to never let pressure from previous snaps affect current ones, which was a shift from some previous quarterbacks.

"With [Howell] being a smaller dude, we did want to test his toughness a little bit," Cardinals defensive end Carlos Watkins said. "But I thought he held up decent. He didn't seem scared or nothing. Just took the hits and kept moving."

"He got a lot of heart," White said, adding, "I tip my hat."

The resilience showed late. The offense broke down in the second half as penalties and sacks led to difficult conversions of third and 25 and third and 20. Bieniemy shifted to a run-heavy approach, and Howell, patient, handed the ball off again and again. On third down from the 6-yard line, when Bieniemy was forced to call a pass play, Howell made a quick read, escaped the pocket and ran into the end zone. He had stayed ready for the big moment; the touchdown gave Washington the lead for good.

"You never saw him shaken; you never saw him with his head down," wide receiver Terry McLaurin said. "He's going to learn and grow, and that's the thing about this: He's our guy. We're going to support him, but as a whole collective we could do a better job just staying on track and helping him out."

Toughness and resilience will be key for Howell all year. His athleticism and arm strength embolden him to take chances, and as he tries to make plays, he inevitably will make mistakes such as the sack-fumble for a touchdown. And he will run a fair amount, so he will need to play through hits — as well as have the smarts to avoid the biggest ones. The development of the entire offense probably will rely heavily on Howell keeping up the intangibles he showed against Arizona.

Here's why it's difficult to read too much into the results of Sunday: Washington played basically the same game Week 1 in 2022. It seized an early lead against a poorly regarded opponent, nearly fumbled the game away in the middle and roared back late with an impressive play by a new quarterback and a game-sealing turnover by the defense.

Last year, the offense never again scored as many points as it did in Week 1. In the locker room Sunday, the primary emotion for offensive players wasn't relief, as it was in 2022. It seemed to be frustration; they thought they were better than that. Left tackle Charles Leno Jr. said the similarities between the games stopped in the box score.

"This year just feels different," he said. "For some reason, it just feels different. I don't know how to explain it."

It seems quite possible the explanation is, as Rivera once said, the quarterback.

Tramel Raggs contributed to this report.

NFL NOTES

Chiefs star Jones gets deal, ends his holdout

FROM STAFF REPORTS AND NEWS SERVICES

The Kansas City Chiefs took a major step Monday toward having their team back at full strength for the second week of the regular season. Standout defensive tackle Chris Jones agreed to a revised one-year contract with the Chiefs, ending a holdout that had spilled over into the season's opening game.

Two people familiar with the negotiations confirmed the agreement, which the Chiefs later announced.

"Chris is an elite player in this league, and over the last seven years, he's really developed into a leader on our team," General Manager Brett Veach said in a statement released by the team. "He's been instrumental to our success and Super Bowl championship runs and it was a priority for us to keep him in a Chiefs uniform."

Jones is a four-time Pro Bowl selection who had 15.5 sacks last season and is among the NFL's most dominant defensive players. He has 65 sacks in his seven NFL seasons, all with Kansas City.

The Chiefs lost their season opener to the Detroit Lions, 21-20.

—Mark Maske

Kansas City Coach Andy Reid said that tight end Travis Kelce, who hyperextended his knee during practice last week, was progressing in his recovery and could return Sunday for a road game against the Jacksonville Jaguars.

"Travis is getting better," Reid said. "We'll see how he does the rest of today or tomorrow, and we'll go from there."

• **BROWNS:** Starting right tackle Jack Conklin suffered a "major" left knee injury in the first half of Sunday's win over the Cincinnati Bengals and will miss the remainder of the season, a major personal blow and significant one for the Browns.

Conklin, who returned last season from a severe injury to his right knee, tore two ligaments when he was inadvertently rolled up on by Bengals end Trey Hendrickson at the end of a pass play.

• **SAINTS:** Defensive end Payton Turner, who left Sunday's victory over the Tennessee Titans with a foot injury, probably needs surgery that could sideline him for an extended period, Coach Dennis Allen said.

Turner, a 2021 first-round draft choice out of Houston, struggled with injuries during his first two seasons, when he appeared in a total of 13 games. Last season, he exhibited potential in the eight games he played, recording two sacks and five tackles for losses.

• **MISC.:** Former NFL defensive back Adam "Pacman" Jones was arrested early Monday after police responded to a report of an "unruly passenger" at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport in Hebron, Ky., authorities said.

Jones was booked on misdemeanor counts of alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct and terroristic threatening, Capt. Kevin Klute of the Boone County Jail said.

— Associated Press

DIGEST

MEDIA

ESPN and Charter end stalemate before MNF

ESPN and Charter announced a new carriage agreement Monday, just hours ahead of **Aaron Rodgers**'s debut with the New York Jets on "Monday Night Football." The deal will ensure that roughly 1 million homes in New York City will have ESPN and ABC after the channels went dark for more than a week.

The blackout interrupted Charter's nearly 15 million cable customers nationwide. They lost access to a suite of Disney-owned networks on college football's opening two weekends as the sides haggled over a new agreement.

The high-stakes stalemate became a test case for how streaming and traditional cable will coexist — and particularly how ESPN's business model continues to evolve around changing media consumption. The sports network is navigating the transition from a lucrative but declining cable business to a streaming model that has not been profitable.

Charter had spent the past week arguing that the video ecosystem is broken as media companies such as Disney try to build out streaming platforms. Disney and ESPN were subsidizing their money-losing streaming services, Charter argued, with fees from cable subscribers. Now, Charter said, with Disney CEO **Bob Iger** recently announcing the intention to offer ESPN directly to consumers in the coming years, ESPN and Disney wanted to move its most valuable content to streaming, too.

The sides announced their new agreement Monday afternoon, and though it didn't transform the TV business, it did seek to break down some of the walls between streaming and the traditional cable business. Charter cable customers will soon have access to Disney Plus at no extra cost. Charter's sports TV package will soon include ESPN Plus; those fans also will get the new ESPN direct-to-consumer product, whenever it launches.

— Ben Strauss

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Suspended Michigan State coach **Mel Tucker** said allegations of sexual harassment against him are "completely false" and the intimate phone call he had with activist **Brenda Tracy** is outside the scope of Title IX and school policy.

In a statement released by a Detroit law firm, Tucker criticized Tracy for suggesting their relationship was anything but consensual and ripped the months-long investigation of his behavior as flawed.

"I can only conclude that there is an ulterior motive designed to terminate my contract based on some other factor such as a desire to avoid any [**Larry Nassar**] taint, or my race or gender," said Tucker, who is Black.

The university was fined $4.5 million four years ago by the Education Department for failing to adequately respond to sexual assault complaints against Nassar, a campus sports doctor who molested elite gymnasts and other female athletes. The school also has settled lawsuits filed by Nassar victims for $500 million.

Athletic Director **Alan Haller** suspended Tucker without pay Sunday, just hours after Tracy's allegations became public in a USA Today report.

The university hired a Title IX attorney to investigate Tracy's complaint, and the investigation concluded July 25. A hearing is scheduled for early October to determine whether Tucker violated the school's sexual harassment and exploitation policy.

Tracy responded to Tucker's statement on social media: "Coach Tucker has been delaying and trying to stop the investigative process since the beginning. He can't afford to go to a hearing that determines credibility of the participating parties. I believe this statement is his way of getting out of participating in the hearing."

Michigan Gov. **Gretchen Whitmer** (D), who has spoken about being raped decades earlier, also weighed in.

"As a survivor, I'm shocked. As a Spartan, I'm disappointed. As Governor, I want answers," she said in a statement.

SOCCER

Portugal didn't need **Cristiano Ronaldo** to rack up its biggest win in a competitive game.

A 9-0 rout of visiting Luxembourg during European Championship qualifying in Almancil came without Ronaldo, who was suspended because of an accumulation of yellow cards.

In his absence, **Gonçalo Ramos**, **Gonçalo Inácio** and **Diogo Jota** each scored twice.

Germany's 13-0 thrashing of San Marino in 2006 remains the biggest win in European Championship qualifying. . . .

Once considered among the world's top midfielders, **Paul Pogba** may see his career end prematurely after the Juventus player and France star tested positive for testosterone.

Nado Italia, the country's anti-doping agency, said the 30-year-old was suspended provisionally. Pending the testing of a backup sample, he faces a suspension of up to four years.

PRO BASKETBALL

Houston Rockets swingman **Kevin Porter Jr.** was arrested and charged with assault and strangulation after allegedly attacking his girlfriend at a New York hotel.

Porter, 23, is accused of hitting the woman several times and putting his hands around her neck, police said. The woman, 26, was taken to a hospital with a cut on the right side of her face.

Porter, a 2019 first-round draft pick, averaged 19.2 points, 5.3 rebounds and 5.7 assists last season.

— From news services and staff reports

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB

6:30 p.m.	**Washington at Pittsburgh** » MASN2, WJFK (106.7 FM)
6:30 p.m.	**St. Louis at Baltimore** » MASN, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
7 p.m.	**New York Yankees at Boston** » TBS
10 p.m.	**San Diego at Los Angeles Dodgers** » MLB Network

SOCCER

Noon	**Men's friendly: Jordan at Azerbaijan** » Fox Sports 2
2:45 p.m.	**Men's friendly: England at Scotland** » Fox Sports 2
8:30 p.m.	**Men's friendly: Oman at United States** » TNT

TENNIS

8 a.m.	**Davis Cup finals, group stage; WTA: San Diego Open and Japan Women's Open, early rounds** » Tennis Channel

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

8 p.m.	**Michigan State at Notre Dame** » ACC Network

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

6 p.m.	**Florida at Florida State** » ACC Network
9 p.m.	**Nebraska at Stanford** » ESPN

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

ANALYSIS

It's only one game, but Cowboys sure look like contenders

BY MARK MASKE

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The Dallas Cowboys had to endure a rainy night at MetLife Stadium and a decidedly inartistic game that felt like the undercard to a matchup on the same field 24 hours later. At times, they merely had to stand by to benefit from the blunders of the New York Giants, who accumulated them in ever more astonishing fashion.

No matter. The numbers on the scoreboard were striking. The dominance was eye-catching, even if the Giants contributed to it. The Cowboys gave an overpowering performance on defense, did enough on offense and delivered an opening-night reminder that maybe, just maybe, they can maneuver themselves back into position to vie for the sort of postseason glory that has eluded them for nearly three decades.

They raced to a 26-point first-half lead over the stumbling-and-bumbling Giants and coasted to a 40-0 triumph in the opening Sunday night game of the NFL season.

"It's one game," Cowboys Coach Mike McCarthy said. "We're excited. . . . We feel good about the way we played tonight. I think we're still evolving. We know where we want to go. I feel like we're fully capable and have an understanding how to get there. But it's a long journey. So we took the first step the right way."

It was the most lopsided shutout victory in franchise history. It also provided McCarthy with the first season-opening win of his Cowboys tenure.

"It's the first game," quarterback Dak Prescott said. ". . . It's about not getting ahead of ourselves, continuing to stay disciplined. . . . It's the NFL. You've got to show up week in and week out and be prepared. And you don't see a lot of wins like this. So we're not going to get ahead of ourselves."

The season's first Monday night game, featuring quarterback Aaron Rodgers's debut for the New York Jets in a showdown with the Buffalo Bills, is the Week 1 main event off Exit 16W of the New Jersey Turnpike. Even so, these are the Cowboys. They *always* matter. And even if this was merely the first step toward another January disappointment, they demonstrated they are capable of raising hopes in the meantime.

The Cowboys last reached an NFC championship game in the 1995 season. That is the season in which they won their third Super Bowl in a span of four years. They are coming off a 2022 season in which they provided familiar glimmers of optimism that perhaps things would be different. They sent quarterback Tom Brady into retirement — for good this time — with a dominant victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the opening round of the NFC playoffs.



RUSTY JONES/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott threw for only 143 yards Sunday night, but Dallas dominated on defense and special teams.

But they lost to the San Francisco 49ers in the divisional round, delighting their detractors and keeping their fans — and owner Jerry Jones — waiting for at least another year.

This is a season in which the 49ers and the Philadelphia Eagles, who met in last season's NFC championship game, appear to be the conference's clear front-runners. There is not an obvious challenger. The Cowboys are good enough to be the team on the heels of the favorites, threatening to overtake them if they stumble. But after so many seasons in which promising buildups have given way to playoff heartbreaks, even the most ardent of Cowboys followers would be wise to keep expectations in check.

That is for down the road, however. On this night, there was only the joy and promise of opening the season by overwhelming an NFC East rival on its home field before a national television audience. The Cowboys were in such command that the Giants fans who were so enthusiastic when the evening began lost the will to endure the sogginess. The stadium was at least half-empty by the start of the fourth quarter.

Standout pass rusher Micah Parsons said in the Cowboys' postgame locker room that he had "no doubt" the Dallas defense would play that way.

"I think we're making a statement which I've been trying to make: We're the best defense in the National Football League," Parsons said.

The Cowboys did nothing particularly spectacular on offense. With McCarthy serving as the play caller, Prescott threw for a modest 143 yards in a 13-for-24 passing performance before giving way to backup Cooper Rush. Tailback Tony Pollard ran for two touchdowns. The offense could be pedestrian because the defense did the heavy lifting, amassing seven sacks. And the Giants helped. The Cowboys scored first-quarter touchdowns on Noah Igbinoghene's 58-yard return of a blocked field goal and DaRon Bland's 22-yard return of a tipped-ball interception.

"I thought the defense and the blocked field goal got us started," McCarthy said. "And we never stopped. The defense was relentless all night."

McCarthy added of his team's pass rush: "That's who we are."

Said Prescott: "When your defense plays like that, you don't have to press anything. You don't have to try to make those plays. But we're still attacking the opportunities that we got, one-on-ones, and trying to get them when we could."

Quarterback Daniel Jones threw two interceptions in a three-turnover performance by the Giants. Tailback Saquon Barkley lost the ball, via a hit by Cowboys cornerback Trevon Diggs, on Jones's interception that led to Bland's touchdown. Kicker Graham Gano missed a 36-yard field goal attempt.

The Giants were a success story last season, reaching the playoffs in Year 1 for Coach Brian Daboll and General Manager Joe Schoen. Barkley became a star, and Jones became a reliable NFL starting quarterback. But the Giants' mostly satisfying season ended with an unsavory 38-7 defeat to the Eagles in a divisional-round playoff game. The drubbing Sunday night means the Giants have been outscored 78-7 over their past two games.

"We got beat all the way around, from coaching to playing," Daboll said. "I accept that. We've got a lot to learn from, a lot to work on. And that's what we'll do. There are no excuses. Give credit to Dallas. They just did everything better than we did tonight."

The outlook was decidedly less dreary in the other locker room.

"This is a big one, a great way to start," Prescott said. ". . . It's just the start, though. There's a lot more opportunities ahead of us."

ON THE NFL

Packers' Love, Browns' Schwartz provide early boosts

ON THE NFL FROM D1

spoiled Kellen Moore's pyrotechnic debut as the Chargers' offensive coordinator and made for by far the most entertaining game of Week 1. Tagovailoa fumbled the opening snap, then fumbled and lost another snap inside the Los Angeles 2-yard line. The Dolphins fell behind four times. Tagovailoa threw an interception into the end zone. They just . . . kept . . . coming.

The Dolphins won, 36-34, as Tagovailoa passed for a preposterous 466 yards and three touchdowns — 215 of the yards and two of the touchdowns going to Hill. (Isn't Chargers Coach Brandon Staley's thing supposed to be, uh, defense?) Tagovailoa missed chunks of last season, including Miami's playoff loss at Buffalo, after a scary bout with concussions. He said he briefly considered retirement. It had zero effect on his nerve. Tagovailoa led the Dolphins on a 75-yard touchdown drive in the final minutes, hitting Hill for 47 yards on a pivotal third and 10.

The Dolphins went 8-4 in games Tagovailoa started and finished last year. Beginning his second season throwing to Waddle and Hill in McDaniel's system, Tagovailoa looked even better. The Dolphins deserve to be in the conversation in the loaded AFC.

Jordan Love was better than he had to be. The Packers' defense, stocked with eight first-round picks, controlled Green Bay's 38-20 victory over the Chicago Bears. The Packers need Love, in his debut as Aaron Rodgers's full-fledged replacement, only to be efficient and limit his mistakes. Instead, Love mixed flawless decision-making with a handful of explosive plays, completing 15 of 27 passes for 245 yards and three touchdowns.

In their first game without Rodgers, the Packers scored the second-most points on Sunday of Week 1. Most of that was Love's operation of the offense. The defense chipped in, too. The Packers were excited about second-year linebacker Quay Walker, a first-round pick out of Georgia, stepping into a larger role. In the fourth quarter, he sealed the game by intercepting Justin Fields and returning it for a touchdown, bouncing off a tackle as he weaved to the end zone.

Rodgers may be gone, but the Packers still own the Bears — and they will be in it all season in the NFC North.

The 49ers really are that good. The offseason placed San Francisco under a stress test. The 49ers admitted massive failure as they traded Trey Lance not even three years after trading up to pick him third in the draft. They needed to sign Nick Bosa to a contract extension and ultimately signed him to the richest deal ever given to a defensive player.



MARK J. TERRILL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Chargers could not corral the Dolphins and Tua Tagovailoa, who threw for 466 yards and three touchdowns in Sunday's win.

They gritted their teeth as quarterback Brock Purdy returned from elbow surgery necessitated by a calamitous NFC championship game injury.

On the field? San Francisco is as dominant as ever, clearly one of the NFL's best teams. In a 30-7 demolition of the Pittsburgh Steelers, the 49ers were the most impressive team of Week 1. Purdy showed no ill effects from his offseason rehab, slowing down after an explosive first half but still passing for 220 yards and two touchdowns on the road, in soggy conditions against a defense that's annually one of the best in the NFL.

Brandon Aiyuk usually is listed after Christian McCaffrey, Deebo Samuel and George Kittle among the 49ers' skill players, but he could be a legitimate No. 1 wideout on a different team. Aiyuk caught all eight passes thrown to him for 129 yards and two scores. McCaffrey ran for 152 yards, including a game-breaking 65-yard touchdown.

The 49ers sacked Kenny Pickett five times, three of them by ascendant, second-year pass rusher Drake Jackson. "We got kicked in the teeth today in a lot of ways," Steelers Coach Mike Tomlin said. In Pittsburgh's defense, the 49ers are the teeth-kickingest team in the NFL.

Jim Schwartz might have been one of the offseason's most important acquisitions. The Browns had one of the worst defenses in the NFL last season, particularly against the run. They fired defensive coordinator Joe Woods and replaced him with Schwartz, a veteran known for his aggressive style. They also overhauled their front around Myles Garrett, signing defensive linemen Dalvin Tomlinson, Ogbo Okoronkwo and Za'Darius Smith, along with safety Juan Thornhill.

In Week 1, the Browns' defense appeared capable of carrying the team into contention in the stacked AFC North. Cleveland throttled the Bengals, 24-3, and held Cincinnati to 142 total yards and 2.8 yards per play. Joe Burrow, fresh off signing the richest contract in NFL history, passed for 82 yards. Coach Kevin Stefanski gave Schwartz the game ball.

The Bengals have started slowly even during their run atop the AFC, and Burrow missed the preseason because of a calf injury. Still, the Browns unveiled a completely different defense, playing more man-to-man coverage and unleashing pass rushers. Deshaun Watson (154 yards, one touchdown and one interception) still looks far removed from his peak. But Cleveland's defense could be a force.

The Jaguars have a legitimate No. 1 wide receiver. Calvin Ridley answered a question unprecedented in modern NFL history: What does it look like when a player returns from a year-long gambling suspension? Ridley came back in peak form, catching eight passes for 101 yards and a touchdown in his first game since October 2021. "Not a surprise to me," quarterback Trevor Lawrence said.

Christian Kirk had an excellent season last year after signing a big free agent contract, but he was underqualified as a No. 1 wideout. Now that Ridley has arrived, Kirk can be an overqualified No. 2 option. Factoring in tight end Evan Engram, steady Zay Jones and Travis Etienne out of the backfield, Lawrence will have an elite cadre of pass catchers.

The Jaguars could be the surest bet to win a division in the NFL. The Titans are the Jaguars' primary competition in the AFC South, and Tennessee suffered a scrappy, 16-15 loss in New Orleans. Jacksonville already has a one-game lead on every team in what could be an otherwise woeful division.

The Ravens' offense has work to do. But Baltimore also has potential. The Ravens' 25-9 victory over the Texans was never in doubt, but their reworked offense had an uneven beginning under new coordinator Todd Monken. There was good (electric rookie wide receiver Zay Flowers), bad (Lamar Jackson's production) and crushing (running back J.K. Dobbins, playing in the final year of his contract, tore his Achilles' tendon and is out for the year).

Odell Beckham Jr., the Ravens' flashiest offseason signing, was largely absent. His first of two catches didn't come until late in the third quarter, although he did draw a pass interference penalty inside the 5-yard line that set up a touchdown. Playing more from the pocket than in past seasons, Jackson completed 17 of 22 passes for 169 yards. But he also fumbled twice, took four sacks and rarely pushed the ball downfield.

There were bright spots, too, starting with Flowers, whom the Ravens drafted in the first round. He caught nine of 10 targets for 78 yards in his debut, leading a wide receiving corps that caught 15 passes — more than Baltimore wideouts caught in any game last year. Tight end Mark Andrews sat out because of a quadriceps injury suffered during training camp, and once he returns, Jackson will have his top target. "We had our ups and downs," Jackson told reporters afterward. "The sky is the limit, though."

The NFC West is upside down. The Seattle Seahawks spent their offseason bolstering a playoff roster with two top-20 draft picks and several key defensive additions. The Los Angeles Rams watched as Coach Sean McVay again openly contemplated early retirement, heard assumptions they were tanking to draft a top quarterback and then placed wide receiver Cooper Kupp on injured reserve.

They conspired Sunday to create the most stunning result of the week. The Rams thumped the Seahawks, 30-13, as Matthew Stafford proved he still has something left in his 35-year-old right arm and a defense made of Aaron Donald and spare parts smothered Seattle. Stafford passed for 334 yards, and the Rams outscored the Seahawks 23-0 in the second half.

McVay designed an offense around unheralded wide receivers. Tutu Atwell, a third-year wideout who had mostly disappointed since the Rams took him in the second round, caught six passes for 119 yards. Puka Nacua, a fifth-round pick out of BYU, may have been the rookie of the week, catching 10 passes for 119 yards. On defense, coordinator Raheem Morris's unit held Geno Smith to 112 yards and allowed one play longer than 15 yards. The Seahawks have some searching to do, and the Rams may be a factor this season.

Rodgers leaves Jets debut with injury on first series

JETS FROM D1

ESPN, which was broadcasting the game, reported that Rodgers had an air cast on his left ankle and foot. The Jets initially called Rodgers questionable to return to the game but later ruled him out.

The Green Bay Packers sent the four-time NFL MVP to the Jets in a blockbuster trade in April, and his arrival in New York became a dominant summer storyline. He was a central figure of the HBO series "Hard Knocks," which chronicled training camp with the Jets.

The relationship between Rodgers and the Packers had become increasingly strained over several years of drama. Rodgers picked the Jets as his preferred destination after deciding during an offseason darkness retreat that he would keep playing rather than retire. He was reunited with Nathaniel Hackett, the first-year offensive coordinator of the Jets who was close to Rodgers in Green Bay and now is attempting to rebuild his professional reputation following an unsuccessful head-coaching stint with the Denver Broncos that lasted less than one season.

Rodgers, who turns 40 in December, has said that he does not expect this to be a one-season-only arrangement with the Jets. In recent days, he even mentioned the possibility of playing until age 45, as Tom Brady did. A kinder and gentler version of Rodgers had been on display in the early stages of his Jets tenure, in contrast to the controversial and polarizing figure he became late in his Green Bay days.

But this was the night when things were to get serious on the field. Hopes and expectations had soared since the trade, with the Jets effectively being labeled a Super Bowl contender by general proclamation.

That was for a team that lost eight of its final 10 games last season to finish 7-10. It was for a franchise that has not reached the playoffs since it made its second straight appearance in the AFC championship game in the 2010 season, with Rex Ryan as its coach and Mark Sanchez as its quarterback. The Jets' lone Super Bowl appearance came when they beat the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III on Jan. 12, 1969, with Joe Namath at quarterback.

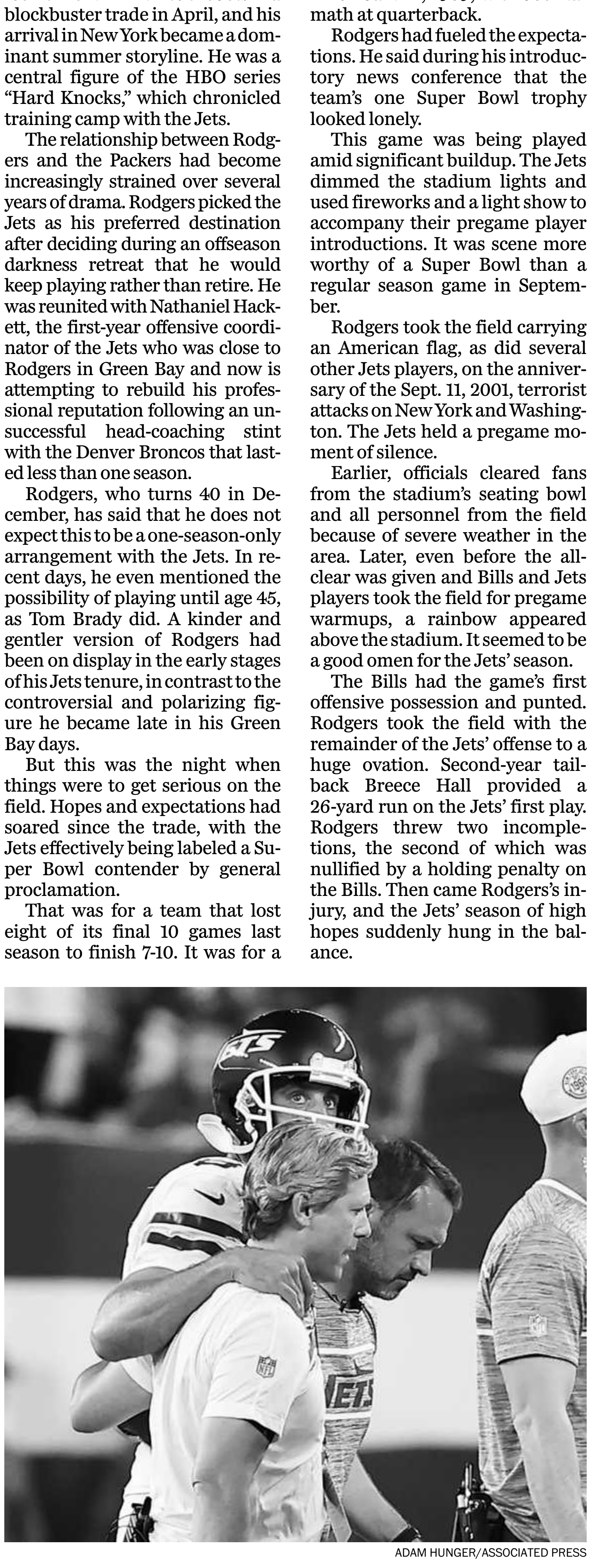
Rodgers had fueled the expectations. He said during his introductory news conference that the team's one Super Bowl trophy looked lonely.

This game was being played amid significant buildup. The Jets dimmed the stadium lights and used fireworks and a light show to accompany their pregame player introductions. It was scene more worthy of a Super Bowl than a regular season game in September.

Rodgers took the field carrying an American flag, as did several other Jets players, on the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. The Jets held a pregame moment of silence.

Earlier, officials cleared fans from the stadium's seating bowl and all personnel from the field because of severe weather in the area. Later, even before the all-clear was given and Bills and Jets players took the field for pregame warmups, a rainbow appeared above the stadium. It seemed to be a good omen for the Jets' season.

The Bills had the game's first offensive possession and punted. Rodgers took the field with the remainder of the Jets' offense to a huge ovation. Second-year tailback Breece Hall provided a 26-yard run on the Jets' first play. Rodgers threw two incompletions, the second of which was nullified by a holding penalty on the Bills. Then came Rodgers's injury, and the Jets' season of high hopes suddenly hung in the balance.



ADAM HUNGER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers suffered an ankle injury on a sack by the Bills' Leonard Floyd. New York said X-rays were negative.

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
y-Atlanta	94	50	.653	—	5-5	L-1
Philadelphia	79	65	.549	15	5-5	W-1
Miami	74	70	.514	20	7-3	L-1
New York	65	78	.455	28½	5-5	L-1
Washington	65	79	.451	29	3-7	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Milwaukee	80	63	.559	—	6-4	W-1
Chicago	78	67	.538	3	6-4	W-2
Cincinnati	74	71	.510	7	5-5	W-1
Pittsburgh	66	78	.458	14½	5-5	L-2
St. Louis	63	81	.438	17½	5-5	L-2

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
x-Los Angeles	87	55	.613	—	4-6	W-1
Arizona	76	69	.524	12½	6-4	W-1
x-San Francisco	73	70	.510	14½	4-6	W-3
x-San Diego	67	77	.465	21	5-5	L-2
Colorado	51	92	.357	36½	2-8	L-5

x-Late game; y-Clinched playoff berth

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Baltimore	91	52	.636	—	8-2	W-1
Tampa Bay	89	56	.614	3	7-3	W-4
Toronto	80	64	.556	11½	7-3	L-1
Boston	73	70	.510	18	4-6	W-1
New York	71	72	.497	20	6-4	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Minnesota	75	69	.521	—	6-4	L-2
x-Cleveland	68	76	.472	7	4-6	L-2
Detroit	66	77	.462	8½	7-3	W-2
Chicago	55	88	.385	19½	3-7	L-2
Kansas City	44	100	.306	31	3-7	L-4

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Houston	82	63	.566	—	5-5	L-1
x-Seattle	79	64	.552	2	3-7	L-3
Texas	79	64	.552	2	4-6	W-3
x-Los Angeles	67	77	.465	14½	3-7	W-2
Oakland	45	99	.313	36½	6-4	W-1

x-Late game



MATT SLOCUM/ASSOCIATED PRESS

October is coming

Ronald Acuña Jr. and the playoff-bound Braves moved closer to the National League East title by beating the Phillies, 10-8, in the first game of a doubleheader. Host Philadelphia won the second game, 7-5.

Nationals 6, Pirates 2

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Abrams ss	4	2	2	3	0	0	.252
Thomas rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.280
Ruiz c	4	1	2	0	0	0	.257
Meneses dh	4	1	1	1	0	1	.276
Smith 1b	4	1	2	1	0	0	.262
Blankenhorn lf	3	0	0	0	1	0	.200
Call lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.196
Vargas 3b	3	0	2	0	1	0	.250
García 2b	4	0	0	1	0	1	.253
Young cf	4	1	0	0	0	0	.286
TOTALS	34	6	9	6	2	2	—

PIRATES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Hayes 3b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.264
Reynolds lf	4	0	1	1	0	2	.270
Joe rf-1b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.238
Andujar dh	4	1	1	0	0	1	.241
Rodríguez c	4	0	1	0	0	0	.220
Peguero 2b-ss	4	0	1	0	0	2	.245
Bae cf	4	0	1	1	0	2	.245
Triolo 1b-2b	2	1	1	0	1	1	.262
A.Williams ss	2	0	0	0	0	2	.211
Palacios ph-rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.219
TOTALS	32	2	7	2	2	10	—

WASHINGTON 002 201 100 — 6 9 0
PITTSBURGH ..001 000 100 — 2 7 0

LOB: Washington 3, Pittsburgh 5. **2B:** Ruiz (20), Smith (19), Andujar (4), Bae (15). **HR:** Abrams (17), off Jackson; Smith (8), off Stratton; Abrams (18), off Bolton. **RBI:** Abrams 3 (57), Meneses (78), García (44), Smith (40), Reynolds (71), Bae (27). **SB:** Young (5), Triolo (4), Reynolds (12). **CS:** Reynolds (1).

NATIONALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Corbin	6⅔	5	2	2	1	8	98	5.13
Weems	1⅓	1	0	0	1	1	28	3.17
Ferrer	1	1	0	0	0	1	10	3.86

PIRATES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Jackson	4	4	4	4	2	1	63	4.91
Stratton	2	3	1	1	0	1	27	1.80
Bolton	2	2	1	1	0	0	27	6.52
Hernandez	1	0	0	0	0	0	12	4.17

WP: Corbin (10-13); **LP:** Jackson (1-3). **Inherited runners-scored:** Weems 1-0. **WP:** Corbin. **T:** 2:24. **A:** 10,045 (38,753).

HOW THEY SCORED

NATIONALS THIRD
Ildemaro Vargas singles. Luis Garcia reaches on a fielder's choice. Ildemaro Vargas out at second. Jacob Young reaches on a fielder's choice. Luis Garcia out at second. **CJ Abrams homers, Jacob Young scores.** Lane Thomas lines out.
Nationals 2, Pirates 0
PIRATES THIRD
Jared Triolo singles. Alika Williams strikes out swinging. Ke'Bryan Hayes grounds out. **Bryan Reynolds singles, Jared Triolo scores.** Connor Joe walks. Bryan Reynolds thrown out stealing home.
Nationals 2, Pirates 1
NATIONALS FOURTH
Keibert Ruiz doubles. **Joey Meneses singles, Keibert Ruiz scores.** Dominic Smith lines out. Travis Blankenhorn walks. Joey Meneses to second. Ildemaro Vargas walks. Travis Blankenhorn to second. Joey Meneses to third. **Luis Garcia reaches on a fielder's choice, Ildemaro Vargas out at second, Travis Blankenhorn to third, Joey Meneses scores.** Jacob Young flies out.
Nationals 4, Pirates 1
NATIONALS SIXTH
Joey Meneses grounds out. **Dominic Smith homers.** Travis Blankenhorn grounds out. Ildemaro Vargas singles. Luis Garcia strikes out swinging.
Nationals 5, Pirates 1
NATIONALS SEVENTH
Jacob Young flies out. **CJ Abrams homers.** Lane Thomas flies out. Keibert Ruiz grounds out.
Nationals 6, Pirates 1
PIRATES SEVENTH
Miguel Andujar double. Endy Rodriguez grounds out. Liover Peguero strikes out swinging. **Ji Hwan Bae doubles, Miguel Andujar scores.** Jared Triolo walks. Joshua Palacios pinch-hitting for Alika Williams. Joshua Palacios flies out.
Nationals 6, Pirates 2

NL WILD-CARD STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct	WCGB
Philadelphia	79	65	.549	+3½
Chicago	78	67	.538	+2
Arizona	76	69	.524	—
Miami	74	70	.514	1½
x-San Francisco	73	70	.510	2
Cincinnati	74	71	.510	2

x-Late game

AL WILD-CARD STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct	WCGB
Tampa Bay	89	56	.614	+9
Toronto	80	64	.556	+½
x-Seattle	79	64	.552	—
Texas	79	64	.552	—
Boston	73	70	.510	6

x-Late game

NL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING
Arraez, Mia .349
Freeman, LA .336
Acuña Jr., Atl .336
Bellinger, Chi .318
Betts, LA .312
Harper, Phi .294
Harris II, Atl .291
Stott, Phi .290
Carroll, Ari .284

HOME RUNS
Olson, Atl 48
Alonso, NY 43
Schwarber, Phi 43
Betts, LA 38
Soler, Mia 35
Acuña Jr., Atl 35
Muncy, LA 34
Riley, Atl 34

ERA
Steele, Chi 2.49
Snell, SD 2.52
Senga, NY 3.07
Kelly, Ari 3.16
Gallen, Ari 3.31
Morton, Atl 3.32
Elder, Atl 3.38

SAVES
Doval, SF 37
Díaz, Cin 35
Bednar, Pit 33
Williams, Mil 32
Iglesias, Atl 29
Hader, SD 28

AL leaders

Entering Monday's games.

BATTING
Seager, Tex .336
Díaz, TB .320
Bichette, Tor .313
Ohtani, LA .304
Yoshida, Bos .293
Tucker, Hou .290
Turner, Bos .285
Hays, Bal .284

HOME RUNS
Ohtani, LA 44
Robert Jr., Chi 35
García, Tex 34
Judge, NY 31
Seager, Tex 30
Paredes, TB 29
Devers, Bos 29
Rodríguez, Sea 29

ERA
Cole, NY 2.79
Gray, Min 2.98
Bradish, Bal 3.03
Castillo, Sea 3.08
Gausman, Tor 3.28
Valdez, Hou 3.30
López, Min 3.43

SAVES
Clase, Cle 39
Romano, Tor 34
Bautista, Bal 33
Estévez, LA 30
Pressly, Hou 30
Jansen, Bos 29

Brewers 12, Marlins 0

Brandon Woodruff tossed a six-hitter and Willy Adames had four RBI, helping Milwaukee rout Miami.

Adames had a triple and two doubles for the Brewers, who collected a season-high 17 hits. Tyrone Taylor went 3 for 5, and Mark Canha, William Contreras, Andruw Monasterio and Sal Frelick had two hits apiece.

MARLINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Arraez 1b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.349
Gurriel 1b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.246
Bell dh	2	0	0	0	1	0	.272
Stallings p	1	0	0	0	0	0	.198
Burger 3b	3	0	1	0	0	2	.296
Berti 3b	1	0	1	0	0	0	.278
Chisholm Jr. cf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.255
Myers cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.277
De La Cruz lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.257
Hampson ph-lf	2	0	1	0	0	1	.284
Sánchez rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.266
Edwards 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.293
Wendle ss	3	0	1	0	0	1	.225
Fortes c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.201
TOTALS	32	0	6	0	1	7	—

BREWERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Canha dh	6	2	2	1	0	0	.303
Contreras c	3	2	2	0	2	0	.283
Santana 1b	2	2	1	0	2	0	.229
Anderson ph-3b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.224
Adames ss	4	3	3	4	0	1	.215
Tellez ph-1b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.213
Donaldson 3b	4	1	1	1	1	1	.250
Turang ss	0	0	0	0	0	0	.223
Monasterio 2b	4	0	2	1	1	0	.271
Taylor lf	5	2	3	2	0	0	.220
Frelick rf	5	0	2	1	0	1	.250
Wiemer cf	5	0	1	1	0	3	.209
TOTALS	40	12	17	11	6	7	—

MIAMI .... 000 000 000 — 0 6 1
MILWAUKEE.. 103 025 01X — 12 17 0

E: Wendle (9). **LOB:** Miami 6, Milwaukee 10. **2B:** Adames 2 (22), Taylor (10), Wiemer (19). **3B:** Adames (2). **HR:** Canha (4), off Luzardo.

MARLINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Luzardo	5	10	6	6	4	5	3.82
Castano	2	5	5	4	2	2	21.0
Stallings	1	2	1	1	0	0	9.00

BREWERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Woodruff	9	6	0	0	1	7	1.93

WP: Woodruff (5-1); **LP:** Luzardo (9-9). **T:** 2:20. **A:** 21,792 (41,700).

Rays 7, Twins 4

Yandy Díaz connected for his 20th homer and finished with four hits, helping Tampa Bay beat AL Central-leading Minnesota for its sixth win in seven games.

Josh Lowe had three hits for the second straight day for the Rays.

RAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Díaz 1b	6	2	4	1	0	0	.324
B.Lowe 2b	5	1	1	0	0	2	.233
Arozarena lf	4	1	2	0	1	1	.256
J.Lowe rf-cf	5	1	3	1	0	0	.287
Siri cf	2	1	1	1	0	0	.222
Bruján rf	2	0	0	1	0	0	.178
Raley dh	3	0	1	0	0	1	.251
Walls ss	4	1	1	3	1	2	.212
Aranda 3b	2	0	0	0	3	0	.224
Pinto c	5	0	0	0	0	2	.258
TOTALS	38	7	13	7	5	8	—

TWINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Julien 2b	2	1	1	0	1	1	.272
Luplow ph-lf	0	0	0	0	1	0	.250
Kirilloff 1b	3	1	1	0	0	1	.266
Farmer ph-1b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.257
Lewis 3b	4	1	1	3	0	2	.312
Kepler rf	3	1	2	1	1	1	.251
Correa ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.228
Castro lf-2b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.254
Solano dh	3	0	0	0	0	1	.290
Jeffers c	4	0	1	0	0	1	.269
Stevenson cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.190
TOTALS	31	4	6	4	3	13	—

TAMPA BAY .. 101 032 000 — 7 13 0
MINNESOTA.. 000 103 000 — 4 6 1

E: Correa (6). **LOB:** Tampa Bay 12, Minnesota 4. **2B:** Díaz (30), Raley (23). **HR:** Walls (8), off Floro; Díaz (20), off Headrick; Kepler (22), off Glasnow; Lewis (12), off Glasnow.

RAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Glasnow	6	6	4	4	2	8	3.15
Kelly	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.22
Diekman	1	0	0	0	1	2	2.52
Fairbanks	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.23

TWINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gray	4	6	2	1	1	5	2.96
Floro	1	2	3	3	1	2	6.59
Headrick	2⅓	4	2	2	0	1	6.57
Winder	1⅔	1	0	0	3	0	4.18

WP: Glasnow (9-5); **LP:** Gray (7-7); **S:** Fairbanks (23). **HBP:** Gray 2 (Raley, Raley), Floro (Siri), Fairbanks (Solano). **WP:** Glasnow, Gray (2). **PB:** Pinto 2(5), Jeffers (5). **T:** 3:11. **A:** 18,683 (38,544).

Rangers 10, Blue Jays 4

Jonah Heim hit his third career grand slam, Evan Carter launched his first major league homer, and Texas beat Toronto to reach its highest single-season victory total since it won 95 games in 2016. The Rangers haven't had a winning season since.

RANGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Semien 2b	4	1	1	0	1	1	.281
Seager ss	5	1	2	1	0	1	.337
Lowe 1b	3	0	0	0	2	2	.277
Garver dh	2	2	0	0	3	0	.283
Grossman rf	3	1	2	1	0	0	.236
Jankowski rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.264
Taveras cf	4	2	2	0	1	0	.270
Heim c	5	1	2	5	0	1	.263
J.Smith 3b	3	0	0	0	2	0	.184
Carter lf	4	2	2	1	0	1	.333
TOTALS	34	10	11	8	9	6	—

BLUE JAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Springer rf	4	0	2	1	0	1	.263
Bichette ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.310
Guerrero Jr. 1b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.265
Clement 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.378
Belt dh	2	0	0	0	0	2	.251
Horwitz ph-dh	2	1	1	0	0	1	.308
Schneider 2b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.364
Biggio 3b-1b	2	2	1	2	1	0	.227
Kirk c	4	0	1	1	0	1	.255
Varsho lf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.219
Kiermaier cf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.275
TOTALS	32	4	7	4	3	11	—

TEXAS........... 011 012 500 — 10 11 0
TORONTO ...... 020 001 001 — 4 7 0

LOB: Texas 7, Toronto 5. **2B:** Heim (26), Seager (37), Kiermaier (17). **HR:** Carter (1), off Bassitt; Heim (16), off Cabrera; Biggio (9), off Kennedy.

RANGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Dunning	6	6	3	3	3	7	3.91
Stratton	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.59
Pérez	1	0	0	0	0	2	4.74
Kennedy	1	1	1	1	0	0	6.43

BLUE JAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Bassitt	5⅓	9	5	5	3	3	3.83
Green	⅔	0	1	1	1	1	6.75
Cabrera	⅔	2	4	4	3	1	2.33
Francis	2⅓	0	0	0	2	1	1.57

WP: Dunning (10-6); **LP:** Bassitt (14-8). **Inherited runners-scored:** Stratton 1-0, Green 1-0, Cabrera 1-1, Francis 1-0. **IBB:** off Cabrera (Garver). **WP:** Dunning, Bassitt. **T:** 2:54. **A:** 23,451 (49,282).

Diamondbacks 4, Mets 3

Tommy Pham hit a tying home run in the eighth inning during his return to Citi Field, Ketel Marte had the go-ahead double in the ninth, and Arizona rallied to knock off New York.

D'BACKS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Marte 2b	5	0	2	1	0	1	.277
Carroll cf-rf	5	0	0	0	0	1	.281
Pham rf	5	2	3	1	0	0	.268
Herrera c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.212
Walker 1b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.264
Gurriel Jr. lf	3	1	0	0	1	1	.256
Longoria dh	2	0	1	1	1	1	.231
P.Smith ph-dh	1	0	1	0	0	0	.188
Rivera 3b	1	0	0	1	1	0	.264
J.Peterson ph-3b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.190
Lawlar ss	2	0	0	0	0	1	.077
Perdomo ph-ss	2	0	0	0	0	1	.260
Zavala c	3	0	2	0	0	1	.667
Thomas ph-cf	1	1	1	0	0	0	.241
TOTALS	35	4	10	4	3	7	—

METS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Nimmo cf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.262
Lindor ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.250
McNeil lf	4	1	3	1	0	0	.268
Alonso 1b	3	1	0	0	1	2	.222
Stewart rf	3	1	1	0	1	1	.266
Mauricio 2b	3	0	1	2	1	1	.313
Baty dh	2	0	0	0	1	1	.209
Vientos 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.199
Araúz 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.125
Vogelbach ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.227
Narváez c	3	0	0	0	1	2	.186
TOTALS	30	3	6	3	5	10	—

ARIZONA .... 000 200 011 — 4 10 1
NEW YORK .... 000 300 000 — 3 6 0

E: Pham (3). **LOB:** Arizona 8, New York 7. **2B:** Pham (15), Marte (25), Mauricio (2), Stewart (7). **HR:** Pham (10), off Gott; McNeil (8), off Davies.

D'BACKS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Davies	4	4	3	3	3	5	6.81
K.Nelson	2	2	0	0	0	1	3.44
Frías	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.64
Ginkel	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.26
Sewald	1	0	0	0	2	1	3.86

METS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Quintana	5	5	2	2	2	4	3.05
Reid-Foley	1	0	0	0	1	3	3.52
Raley	1	1	0	0	0	0	2.94
Gott	1	2	1	1	0	0	5.01
D.Smith	1	2	1	1	0	0	4.65

WP: Ginkel (9-0); **LP:** D.Smith (4-6); **S:** Sewald (12). **HBP:** Frías (Nimmo). **T:** 2:50. **A:** 25,230 (42,136).

Athletics 4, Astros 0

Ken Waldichuk pitched six hitless innings in relief and Brent Rooker hit the first of three home runs by Oakland in its victory over Houston.

The Astros fell to 9-2 against the last-place Athletics this season while Oakland improved to 45-99, delaying the team's 100th loss for at least another day.

ATHLETICS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Gelof 2b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.267
Noda 1b	4	1	1	1	0	3	.238
Díaz lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.229
Kemp ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.214
Rooker rf	2	1	1	1	1	1	.241
S.Brown ph-rf	1	0	1	0	0	0	.221
J.Diaz dh	3	0	0	0	0	2	.238
Soderstrom ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	1	.156
Langeliers c	4	1	2	1	0	1	.206
Smith 3b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.205
Allen ss	3	0	1	1	0	1	.209
Ruiz cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.249
TOTALS	33	4	7	4	1	13	—

ASTROS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Altuve 2b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.313
Peña ss	4	0	2	0	0	1	.263
Alvarez dh	3	0	0	0	1	0	.299
Bregman 3b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.270
Tucker rf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.288
J.Abreu 1b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.236
Brantley lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.310
McCormick cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.285
Maldonado c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.185
TOTALS	29	0	3	0	2	6	—

OAKLAND...... 010 010 101 — 4 7 0
HOUSTON...... 000 000 000 — 0 3 0

LOB: Oakland 3, Houston 5. **2B:** Smith (3). **HR:** Rooker (24), off Valdez; Langeliers (18), off Valdez; Noda (15), off Montero.

ATHLETICS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Miller	2	1	0	0	1	3	2.84
Waldichuk	6	0	0	0	1	3	5.36
May	1	2	0	0	0	0	3.70

ASTROS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Valdez	7	4	3	3	1	10	3.32
Maton	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.15
Montero	1	3	1	1	0	1	5.04

WP: Waldichuk (3-7); **LP:** Valdez (11-10). **HBP:** Waldichuk (Tucker). **T:** 2:25. **A:** 29,807 (41,000).

Orioles 11, Cardinals 5

CARDINALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Nootbaar lf	5	1	2	0	0	1	.275
Goldschmidt 1b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.273
Gorman 2b	3	2	0	0	2	0	.235
Arenado 3b	4	2	2	1	1	0	.272
Contreras c	4	0	3	2	0	0	.261
Palacios ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.289
Burleson dh	5	0	2	1	0	0	.240
Walker rf	4	0	1	1	1	0	.271
Edman cf	5	0	0	0	0	1	.246
Winn ss	3	0	1	0	1	0	.157
TOTALS	39	5	12	5	5	4	—

ORIOLES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Rutschman c	3	2	1	0	2	0	.272
Henderson ss	5	3	3	1	0	0	.257
Santander dh	4	0	0	0	1	1	.259
O'Hearn rf	4	1	1	1	0	0	.304
Hays lf	1	0	1	2	0	0	.285
Mountcastle 1b	3	1	0	0	2	1	.269
Mullins cf	3	2	2	4	1	0	.251
Hicks lf-rf	4	2	3	0	0	0	.296
Frazier 2b	3	0	1	1	1	0	.248
Urías 3b	4	0	1	1	0	1	.269
TOTALS	34	11	13	10	7	3	—

ST. LOUIS....... 103 010 000 — 5 12 1
BALTIMORE... 020 151 02X — 11 13 1

E: Arenado (8), Webb (1). **LOB:** St. Louis 12, Baltimore 6. **2B:** Nootbaar (21), Hicks (6), O'Hearn (19). **HR:** Mullins (14), off Pallante; Henderson (25), off Pallante. **RBI:** Contreras 2 (66), Arenado (89), Walker (45), Burleson (34), Urías (41), Frazier (57), O'Hearn (52), Mullins 4 (67), Henderson (75), Hays 2 (61). **SB:** Nootbaar (10). **CS:** Winn (1).

CARDINALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Hudson	4⅓	8	7	7	3	2	5.10
Pallante	1⅔	3	2	2	0	1	5.25
VerHagen	1	0	0	0	2	0	4.09
Suárez	⅓	1	2	2	2	0	8.50
Barnes	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	9.45

ORIOLES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Kremer	4⅓	7	5	5	4	2	4.25
Hall	1⅓	1	0	0	0	1	3.09
Webb	1	1	0	0	0	0	3.45
López	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	4.50
Coulombe	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	2.38
Fujinami	1	1	0	0	1	1	4.01

WP: Hall (1-0); **LP:** Hudson (6-2). **Inherited runners-scored:** Pallante 3-3, Barnes 3-2, Hall 1-1, López 2-0, Coulombe 1-0. **WP:** Kremer. **T:** 3:12. **A:** 15,485 (45,971).

ORIOLES' LEADERS

Entering Tuesday's game.

Batters	Avg	R	H	2B	HR	RBI	BB
O'Hearn	.304	41	86	19	12	52	13
Hicks	.296	31	48	6	7	29	24
Hays	.285	72	133	35	14	61	33
Westburg	.277	24	48	15	3	21	13

GAME 1

Braves 10, Phillies 8 (10)

Kevin Pillar and Orlando Arcia each had run-scoring hits in the 10th to move Atlanta closer to the National League East title with a win over Philadelphia.

BRAVES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Acuña Jr. rf	5	1	2	2	1	0	.336
Albies 2b	4	1	1	1	1	1	.266
Riley 3b	4	2	2	0	0	1	.276
Olson 1b	4	0	1	2	1	1	.277
Ozuna dh	4	0	0	0	1	0	.266
Wall pr-dh	0	1	0	0	0	0	.250
Rosario lf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.263
Pillar ph-lf	1	1	1	1	0	0	.235
d'Arnaud c	5	0	0	0	0	1	.234
Arcia ss	5	1	2	1	0	0	.277
Harris II cf	4	3	2	2	0	0	.293
TOTALS	40	10	11	9	4	7	—

PHILLIES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Schwarber dh	4	3	2	0	1	0	.200
Turner ss	5	2	2	2	0	2	.267
Harper 1b	3	3	2	2	2	0	.296
Bohm 3b	4	0	2	3	1	1	.278
Stott 2b	5	0	1	1	0	2	.289
Marsh cf	3	0	0	0	0	3	.286
Pache ph-lf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.288
Castellanos rf	5	0	0	0	0	3	.268
Cave lf	2	0	0	0	1	0	.229
Sosa ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.252
Rojas cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.280
Stubbs c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.211
TOTALS	38	8	9	8	5	15	—

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E: Cave (1), Stubbs (4). **LOB:** Atlanta 7, Philadelphia 6. **2B:** Harris II (25), Albies (22), Olson (26), Arcia 2 (22), Bohm (30), Stott (30). **3B:** Riley (2). **HR:** Harris II (15), off Bellatti; Acuña Jr. (36), off Bellatti; Turner (25), off Lee; Harper (16), off Iglesias.

BRAVES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Morton	6	6	4	4	4	9	3.42
Lee	⅓	1	2	2	1	0	4.18
Jiménez	⅔	0	0	0	0	1	2.86
Minter	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.88
Iglesias	1	2	2	2	0	1	3.14
Yates	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.75

PHILLIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Walker	5⅓	6	6	5	3	5	4.30
Bellatti	1⅔	2	2	2	1	1	5.11
Covey	2	1	0	0	0	0	4.24
Alvarado	1	2	2	1	0	1	1.83

WP: Iglesias (4-4); **LP:** Alvarado (0-2); **S:** Yates (4). **Inherited runners-scored:** Bellatti 1-1. **HBP:** Walker 2 (Harris II, Riley). **WP:** Alvarado. **T:** 3:08. **A:** 30,572 (42,901).

GAME 2

Phillies 7, Braves 5

Brandon Marsh homered, Jake Cave hit a two-run triple, and Philadelphia spoiled Matt Olson's 50th homer and salvaged a doubleheader split with a win over Atlanta.

Michael Harris II went deep for the Braves in both games.

BRAVES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Acuña Jr. dh	4	1	0	0	1	0	.334
Harris II cf	4	1	2	1	0	1	.295
Riley 3b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.274
Olson 1b	3	2	2	4	1	0	.279
Murphy c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.267
Rosario lf	3	0	1	0	0	2	.263
Williams ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Arcia ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.275
Pillar rf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.229
Lopez 2b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.283
TOTALS	35	5	7	5	2	8	—

PHILLIES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Schwarber lf	4	1	1	0	1	3	.201
Rojas cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.280
Turner ss	4	1	2	1	0	0	.269
Harper dh	3	1	0	0	1	2	.294
Realmuto c	3	0	0	1	0	0	.251
Stott 2b	3	1	0	0	0	2	.287
Castellanos rf	3	0	1	1	1	2	.268
Marsh cf-lf	4	1	1	1	0	2	.286
Sosa 3b	4	1	2	2	0	1	.256
Cave 1b	4	1	1	1	0	2	.230
TOTALS	32	7	8	7	3	12	—

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E: Arcia (10), Lorenzen (2), Sosa (11). **LOB:** Atlanta 5, Philadelphia 6. **2B:** Lopez (2), Sosa (13), Turner (31). **3B:** Cave (1). **HR:** Olson 2 (50), off Lorenzen; Harris II (16), off Soto; Marsh (10), off Stephens.

BRAVES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wright	3	6	6	6	2	3	7.48
Stephens	3⅔	2	1	1	1	5	2.45
Johnson	1⅓	0	0	0	0	4	0.49

PHILLIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lorenzen	5	5	4	4	2	3	5.23
Hoffman	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.30
Soto	1	1	1	1	0	1	4.94
Strahm	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.29
Kimbrel	1	1	0	0	0	1	3.39

WP: Lorenzen (4-2); **LP:** Wright (0-2); **S:** Kimbrel (23). **Inherited runners-scored:** Stephens 1-1, Johnson 2-0. **HBP:** Wright (Stott). **WP:** Stephens. **T:** 2:43. **A:** 27,025 (42,901).

Offense breaks out as Baltimore rolls on

ORIOLES 11, CARDINALS 5

BY HAYES GARDNER

BALTIMORE — Cedric Mullins waited for the pitch to break, then turned and unloaded. As the ball floated high through the air, some fans flung their arms up, unable to wait until it dropped over the right field fence.

With one swift swing, Mullins had doubled the Baltimore Orioles' run total and given them a three-run lead in the fifth inning over the St. Louis Cardinals in the opener of a seven-game homestand. The next inning, rookie Gunnar Henderson added on himself by hammering a 422-foot solo shot — his 25th home run of the season.

On a night when Orioles starter Dean Kremer had a poor showing, the team shined everywhere else: The offense picked up the slack, the bullpen — which remains without injured closer Félix Bautista — took care of business, and the defense was strong, highlighted by an outstanding diving catch by defensive replacement Austin Hays in the eighth.

With the 11-5 victory, the Orioles improved to 91-52 and lowered their magic number to clinch a playoff spot to four.

A moment of silence was held before the game and a Baltimore City firehouse was honored Monday, the 22nd anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, in front of an announced crowd of 15,485.

The Orioles then fell behind early as Kremer wasn't as sharp as he has been in recent weeks, allowing five runs in a game for the first time since July 19. Baltimore's offense just about kept pace, though, thanks in part to aggressive base running from veteran outfielder Aaron Hicks.

— Baltimore Sun

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NOTES

GAMES CALLED BY RAIN IN CHICAGO, BOSTON

Monday night's games between the Royals and White Sox and Yankees and Red Sox were postponed because of rain. The teams will play doubleheaders Tuesday.

PERSONNEL DEPT.

Brewers: Recalled 3B Josh Donaldson from Class AAA Nashville. Milwaukee signed the former AL MVP to a minor league deal Aug. 31.

Cubs: Placed closer Adbert Alzolay (forearm strain) on the 15-day injured list and promoted OF Pete Crow-Armstrong from Class AAA Iowa.

Rockies: Activated OF Kris Bryant (finger) from the IL and designated SS-OF Cole Tucker for assignment.

TODAY

NL games

NATIONALS AT PIRATES, 6:35	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Adon (R)	2-1	5.56	5-1
TBD	----	----	----
BRAVES AT PHILLIES, 6:40			
Fried (L)	7-1	2.70	9-3
Wheeler (R)	11-6	3.49	17-11
DIAMONDBACKS AT METS, 7:10			
Nelson (R)	7-7	5.30	11-14
Butto (R)	0-2	3.86	1-2
MARLINS AT BREWERS, 7:40			
TBD	----	----	----
Peralta (R)	11-8	3.89	16-11
CUBS AT ROCKIES, 8:40			
Assad (R)	3-3	2.83	5-3
Flexen (R)	1-7	7.36	2-10
PADRES AT DODGERS, 10:10			
Wacha (R)	11-3	2.99	13-7
Lynn (R)	10-11	6.09	13-15

NL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
L.A. Dodgers 7, at Washington 3
at Atlanta 5, Pittsburgh 2
Miami 5, at Philadelphia 4
at Cincinnati 7, St. Louis 1
at Chicago Cubs 5, Arizona 2
at San Francisco 6, Colorado 3

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 6, at Pittsburgh 2
Game 1: Atlanta 10, at Philadelphia 8 (10)
Game 2: at Philadelphia 7, Atlanta 5
at Milwaukee 12, Miami 0
Arizona 4, at N.Y. Mets 3
Chicago Cubs 5, at Colorado 5
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, late

Interleague games

CARDINALS AT ORIOLES, 6:35	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Wainwright (R)	3-11	8.19	5-14
Means (L)	0-0	0.00	0-0
REDS AT TIGERS, 6:40			
Williamson (L)	4-4	4.20	10-9
TBD	----	----	----
GUARDIANS AT GIANTS, 9:45			
Quantrill (R)	2-6	5.70	7-8
Manaea (L)	5-5	5.00	1-5

Interleague scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
N.Y. Mets 2, at Minnesota 0
at Houston 12, San Diego 2
at N.Y. Yankees 4, Milwaukee 3 (13)

MONDAY'S RESULTS
at Baltimore 11, St. Louis 5
Cleveland at San Francisco, late

AL games

GAME 1: YANKEES AT RED SOX, 1:35	W-L	ERA	TEAM
TBD	----	----	----
TBD	----	----	----
GAME 1: ROYALS AT WHITE SOX, 4:40			
Lyles (R)	4-16	6.24	4-23
Toussaint (R)	3-7	4.71	5-7
RANGERS AT BLUE JAYS, 7:07			
Scherzer (R)	12-6	3.91	16-10
Ryu (L)	3-2	2.65	5-2
GAME 2: YANKEES AT RED SOX, 7:10			
Rodón (L)	2-5	6.60	2-8
Pivetta (R)	9-8	4.54	6-6
RAYS AT TWINS, 7:40			
Littell (R)	3-5	4.29	5-6
Ryan (R)	10-9	4.21	13-12
GAME 2: ROYALS AT WHITE SOX, 8:10			
Singer (R)	8-10	5.34	13-14
Cease (R)	6-7	4.98	14-15
ATHLETICS AT ASTROS, 8:10			
Sears (L)	4-11	4.51	8-20
Verlander (R)	11-7	3.24	13-10
ANGELS AT MARINERS, 9:40			
Sandoval (L)	7-12	4.31	8-17
Woo (R)	2-4	4.50	7-7

AL scores

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at Boston 7, Baltimore 3
at Tampa Bay 6, Seattle 3
at Detroit 3, Chicago White Sox 2
at Toronto 5, Kansas City 2
at Texas 9, Oakland 4
at L.A. Angels 2, Cleveland 1

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Texas 12, at Toronto 4
Oakland 4, at Houston 0
Tampa Bay 7, at Minnesota 4
L.A. Angels at Seattle, late
Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, ppd.
N.Y. Yankees at Boston, ppd.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

Undefeated Oakton field hockey team benefits from getaway to Richmond

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Oakton field hockey team passed all eight of its tests this season — and convincingly so. In an 8-0 start, the Cougars' average margin of victory is more than four goals.

The Cougars played their first game Aug. 22, but earlier in the month they were in Richmond readying themselves for the road ahead. Recognizing the importance of team bonding, Coach Erin Keenan used a connection she had with the coach at Mills Godwin, a 2022 Virginia Class 5 quarterfinalist, to arrange both a scrimmage with a top team in the state and a getaway to bring the team closer together. The Cougars say that has been integral to their early success.

"Even off the field we all get along, and that carries onto the field," said junior Avery DeKoven, who leads the team with 10 goals.

During the trip, which also included going to a baseball game and a University of Richmond field hockey team practice, players journaled their goals for the season. Some kept their entries to themselves, while others shared them with the team. One that was shared: win the district, something that hasn't been done at Oakton since 2006, before much of this roster was born.

"All three years — my freshman, sophomore and junior years — we always ended our season at the regional semifinals. I just want to go further than that and make it to states," senior Esther Eum said. ". . . Nothing's impossible if we really give it our all."

— Emmett Siegel

Tennis

Lee Ingham has a rule when she puts together Good Counsel's roster at the start of each season. The longtime coach doesn't cut any athletes after tryouts — a policy she has followed for more than a decade.

The Falcons don't field freshman or junior varsity teams. Ingham has instead implemented a "practice squad" for young and inexperienced players to learn the basics of the sport, a developmental group that gives every player a place on the team.

"It's like my internal feeder system," Ingham said. "It's pretty cool because I can watch kids just get better and better and come up the next year."

Sophia Sakkos and Gabby Georges had never played competitive tennis before trying out for the team last season. Ingham placed them both on the practice squad so they could learn the fundamentals of the sport and practice at the same time as the varsity team.

This season, Sakkos and Georges are varsity team captains.

"During the practice squad we did a lot of basics like forehands and backhands, just learning to play strategically and being able to serve," Georges said. "But I think one of the biggest things that you have to carry from practice squad to the varsity team is your confidence."

Good Counsel has a five-member practice squad this season, a group of young players training to make the jump to varsity next season. Those players cheer on the team during home games and attend bonding events — experiences Sakkos believes prepared her for her jump.

"We wanted to be on varsity [this year], so we kept playing by ourselves throughout the year, and we came back, tried out and made it, which is awesome," Sakkos said. "It's just kind of crazy because we used to not know anything about tennis, and now it's our favorite sport."

— Noah Ferguson

Area football rankings

Because some of this past weekend's games were postponed to this week, our Top 20 rankings and football notes will appear in Wednesday's newspaper.

Volleyball

It wasn't necessarily a surprise. Other coaches in Northern Virginia had warned Madison might be a team on the rise.

But to start 8-0 — and to do so under a first-year coach — will make even the most lukewarm believers take note. With the season just a few weeks old, Madison's athletic, defensive-minded brand of volleyball has established the Warhawks as the early favorite in a crowded crop of Class 6 contenders.

"I think our desire to win is a lot higher," senior Camille Pomeroy said. "We hold each other accountable in a positive way. And everything's more efficient."

Coach Kendal Hall, a 2016 Madison graduate, identified promise in the program when she first stepped on campus. Sure, the program looked a little different than when her Warhawks won a state championship in 2015 (with Hall earning a first-team All-Met selection that year). But volleyball and high school also look different in 2023, so she didn't see any reason to worry.

If anything, she saw enough similarities that some early confidence sneaked in. When 40 players arrived in Madison's gym for varsity tryouts — and she began having to cut "great" players — Hall figured Madison might be back in the running. When they responded to their first dropped set of the season with a 3-1 victory, she beamed.

She is perhaps most proud of her players' care for the program's short- and long-term future. Several injured varsity players, including junior setter Lauren Garrett, have bounced around to freshman and junior varsity practices without being prodded to facilitate improvement on other rungs of the program. She also heard her players not just vocalize their goals but ask the staff how to get there.

"The big thing our coaching staff noticed with the culture going in was that a lot of players wanted to win districts, wanted to win regions, but they didn't really know how to do it," Hall said. "They're absorbing everything really well. They're amazing."

— Spencer Nusbaum

Boys' soccer

Washington International ended last season one goal away from a dream finish. The Red Devils, representing a small, globally minded private school in Northwest Washington, have had plenty of success over the years in the Potomac Valley Athletic Conference, winning nine of the past 10 league titles. Last fall they took the next step in their postseason mission by making the D.C. State Athletic Association championship match.

They fell to undefeated Gonzaga, 1-0, but succeeded in garnering more attention and respect locally. This year, the team wanted a bigger challenge.

"After a really strong season, I had spoken with a couple of the returning players and asked what they wanted for the season ahead. They said they wanted to go against some tougher competition to open the year," Coach Andrew Sopher said. "They wanted to get a feel for what the standard was going to be."

Washington International began its season with reigning Washington Catholic Athletic Conference champion Gonzaga and reigning Interstate Athletic Conference co-champ Landon in back-to-back matches. Even though they lost both, the Red Devils hope to carry some of that ambition and momentum into the rest of their schedule.

"We knew we were going into some tough games," Sopher said. "But our effort hasn't dropped off at all. It's just a new group of players that are learning how to play with each other, and that takes time over the course of the season."

The team lost 16 seniors to graduation, and at a school of just 250 students at the high school level, it takes time to replenish the roster. Among the key returners are the team's three captains: senior defender Antonio Giorgianni, senior midfielder Emilio Pineda and sophomore midfielder Filippo Mancini-Griffoli.

"I've always had a great opportunity to work with a community of students, many international, who grew up with soccer as their first sport," Sopher said. "They grew up with the sport, they understand it so well, and their on-field IQ is well beyond anything I had as a player."

— Michael Errigo

Girls' soccer

Good Counsel's trip to New York started with a weather-shortened 1-0 defeat to Albertus Magnus, the No. 9 team in the nation, after the game Friday was called five minutes into the second half because of lightning.

The Falcons didn't let the loss get them down. They sang Taylor Swift songs and tunes from Disney movies "Frozen" and "Tangled" on the way to their hotel before they rebounded with a 4-1 win over Immaculate Heart Academy (N.J.) on Saturday.

Coach Jim Bruno was pleased with his team's performances in both games but even happier to see the players come together off the field over the course of the weekend, which culminated with a trip to Six Flags on Sunday.

"This team, pretty much half of the players are all new," senior captain Paige Kush said. "Coming up here and playing and all the team bonding, it's really helping us become closer and helping us getting to know each other so much better. It's just an experience that you can't replace."

The Falcons went into New York City to eat at a pizzeria and watch a showing of "The Lion King" on Broadway after Saturday morning's victory. Bruno said Good Counsel attempts to make a weekend trip each year to cultivate team chemistry and prepare the team for a tough WCAC schedule with matchups against top teams from other states.

"We got a situation where I can bring them together to do some team bonding here, besides obviously playing some tough competition," Bruno said. "So there's a lot more to it than just going out there and playing soccer."

— Nicky Wolcott

Golf

Players from five Anne Arundel County schools met at the Preserve at Eisenhower golf course Tuesday for the region's second all-girls match of the season.

Started by Severna Park Coach Pete Buck this year, the matches mark a first for high school golf in the county, though planning was started by former Arundel coach Phelps Prescott six years ago.

"[This] actually would have come to fruition three years ago, but then covid hit. It kind of delayed us," Buck said. "Once . . . we got back on the golf course, Phelps continued to push girls-only matches, and we've promoted it so well that we have six high schools that have at least four girls."

Because many girls playing do not typically get a chance to start, the matches provide players an opportunity for many new experiences.

"With the girls' open [matches], you're with the same girls every single time," Severna Park junior Leah Salkeld said. "So it's giving us a chance to meet someone new and giving us a chance to get competitive."

Golf at the high school level in Maryland remains one of the few sports to be fully co-ed for public schools in all matches and tournaments. Crofton Coach Collin Snyder hopes more matches like these and further awareness for the sport will help to level the playing field.

"I'd like to see [girls' golf] kind of where track is, where they have their own state tournament, they have their own state champions and they have their own records," he said. "They deserve just as much as the boys do."

— Jakob Bowen

JOHN FEINSTEIN

Olympic sports face a Russia dilemma, and neutrality sends the wrong message

FEINSTEIN FROM D1

old "politics and sports shouldn't mix" route.

The problem is this: Politics and sports *always* mix — and have for as long as anyone can remember.

Avery Brundage, then the president of the U.S. Olympic Committee, bowed to German pressure when two Jewish athletes were removed from the Americans' 4x100 relay at the 1936 Berlin Olympics so as not to insult Adolf Hitler. Thirty-six years later, Brundage, then in charge of the International Olympic Committee, declared "The Games must go on" without so much as pausing for breath after 11 Israeli athletes were murdered by terrorists in Munich.

In 1968, Czechoslovakian gymnast Vera Caslavska tied for a gold medal with the Soviet Union's Larisa Petrik. The women had to share the top step on the podium during the playing of the national anthems. When the Soviet anthem began, Caslavska dropped her head and refused to look up at the Soviet flag. It was a remarkably simple, dramatic and effective protest of the Soviet invasion of Prague that summer.

During the 1960s and 1970s, a number of top South African tennis players emerged as apartheid policies still governed their country. Johan Kriek, a two-time major champion, and Kevin Curren, a Wimbledon finalist, became American citizens. Why?

"It's very difficult to travel to many countries on a South African passport," Curren said shortly after he beat Jimmy Connors at Wimbledon in 1985.

Eight years after the Munich Games, President Jimmy Carter had the United States boycott the Moscow Olympics to protest the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, a country later occupied by U.S. troops. For most Olympic athletes, the chance to go to the Games is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. A number of American athletes who missed that chance in 1980 have never gotten over it.

Four years later, most of the Eastern bloc boycotted the Los Angeles Olympics, a political tit-for-tat with the athletes as pawns.

So sports and politics always mix.

Swimming's leadership is taking the easiest way out, wringing its hands over the war while saying the athletes can still compete. Officials issued a seven-page set of rules for what they called the "neutral individual athletes": no national anthems (a shame in the case of the Russian anthem, which is quite beautiful), with officials saying "the World Aquatics Anthem" would be played instead; only one swimmer per country per event (so the second-best swimmer *is* affected by politics, even if the first is not); robust anti-doping measures; a requirement that all "neutral" athletes wear plain white uniforms; and, the best one of all, no contact with the media.

If any athletes should *have* to meet with the media, these are the ones. If they don't want to take a position on the war, that's their right, but they should have to answer questions about the competition, about wearing white, about winning gold (if they do) and not hearing their national anthem, about not being able to swim relays — because apparently there is no "team neutral."

More important, though, is the larger issue of whether athletes in a country that started and continues to perpetrate a horrific war should be allowed to compete.

I don't think there is any easy answer to this one. The athletes who missed the 1980 and 1984 Olympics were victims of politicians who were using them to score political points. The irony of the 1980 boycott is that Carter threw a party at the White House for the U.S. Winter Olympic team shortly after announcing the boycott of that year's Summer Games. The question being asked by many athletes that day was this: Had anything cheered the country at a very difficult time more than the hockey team's win over the Soviets in Lake Placid?

Of course not.

This, however, is different.

The notion of banning athletes because of Vladimir Putin's war makes some sense: It sends a public message to Putin, who loves Russian victories in international competition, and might apply some pressure on him at home.

If the Russian and Belarusian athletes compete in Paris, I will understand. I also will understand those who are appalled by their presence.

But if they are allowed to compete — which I'm guessing they ultimately will be, in all sports — then don't play these silly "neutral athletes" games. Either they're in or they're out. You can't change where they come from by making them wear white shirts. Play their anthems when they win, and let people drop their heads in protest.

That will send a message — a real one.

Abrams's first multihomer game boosts Nationals past Pirates in series opener

NATIONALS FROM D1

the top of the lineup, and for him to do what he did shows how amazing he is as a player."

The left-handed-hitting Abrams has established himself as a pull hitter. He entered Monday batting .413 with 12 home runs, 12 doubles and 36 RBI on balls that he pulls, according to FanGraphs. He's hitting .236 on balls he hits to center field and .298 to the opposite field.

"He gets himself ready early," Martinez said. "He's able to make an adjustment on the ball, and that's been the big difference. We've tried really hard for him to stay on plane and stay on top of the baseball and to make sure that his foot is down early and on time. He's done that, and that's where you're seeing all this power come from."

His first home run, on a high change-up, gave the Nationals (65-79) a 2-0 lead. Bryan Reynolds responded with a two-out RBI single in the bottom half to halve the Pirates' deficit.

The Nationals scored two runs in the fourth to extend their lead before Smith added a solo shot in the sixth.

That was more than enough for Patrick Corbin, whose slider gave the Pirates fits. Corbin threw 51 sliders, and the Pirates (66-78) swung at 21 of them, missing 14 in his 6⅔ innings. He recorded eight strikeouts, and seven came on sliders, including three in the fifth inning. Ji Hwan Bae swung through a slider in the dirt, Jared Triolo whiffed on a slider that painted the black, and Alika Williams chased another in the dirt.

Corbin's outing made for minimal work for the bullpen. Jordan Weems covered 1⅓ innings before Jose A. Ferrer pitched the ninth.

Abrams provided all the support the Nationals' pitching staff would need. On each home run, he saluted his teammates as he rounded first base. Practice makes perfect.

Note: The Nationals promoted two of their 2023 draft picks, third baseman Yohandy Morales and outfielder Andrew Pinckney, from high Class A Wilmington to Class AA Harrisburg. Wilmington's season ended Sunday, so the pair will play in Harrisburg for the final week of the season.

Morales, the team's second-round pick, and Pinckney, a fourth-rounder, have moved in tandem. After cameos in the Florida Complex League, both were at low Class A Fredericksburg with No. 2 pick Dylan Crews. They were promoted to Wilmington in late August, when Crews jumped straight to Harrisburg. Now the three are back together.



JOE SARGENT/GETTY IMAGES

CJ Abrams sported the home run wig after a two-run shot in the third and a solo blast in the seventh.

NATIONALS ON DECK

at Pittsburgh Pirates

Today	6:35	MASN2
Tomorrow	6:35	MASN2
Thursday	12:35	MASN

at Milwaukee Brewers

Friday	8:10	MASN
Saturday	7:10	MASN2
Sunday	2:10	MASN2

vs. Chicago White Sox

Monday	7:05	MASN2
Sept. 19	7:05	MASN2
Sept. 20	1:05	MASN2

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM)

In 38 games across three levels, Morales has a .931 OPS with 15 doubles and four triples. He has yet to hit a home run but has still been productive. Pinckney has a .331 batting average and a .916 OPS in 37 games. He has eight doubles, a triple and four home runs.

Though it's just for a few games, Morales and Pinckney join a Harrisburg lineup filled with talent. Along with Crews, the Senators also have James Wood, Robert Hassell III and Brady House.

ANALYSIS

U.S. is not the only loser at the FIBA World Cup

BY BEN GOLLIVER

An unpredictable FIBA World Cup wrapped up Sunday, when Germany claimed a historic gold medal and USA Basketball went home empty-handed for the second straight tournament.

Here's a rundown of the winners and losers from the World Cup, which played out in the Philippines, Japan and Indonesia over the past three weeks.

Winners

Germany: Dirk Nowitzki would be proud. Germany raced through the World Cup with an 8-0 record, winning its first gold medal at the tournament by holding off Serbia in Sunday's championship game. Dennis Schröder (19.1 points per game, 6.1 assists per game) delivered one of the purest comeback stories in recent memory, bouncing back from a 4-for-26 shooting night in the quarterfinals to help Germany knock off the United States in the semifinals and close the door on Serbia. Schröder led all scorers with 28 points in the gold medal game to win tournament MVP honors.

This triumph represents a high-water mark for the Germans, who have never medaled at the Olympics and had only a 2002 World Cup bronze and three EuroBasket medals to their names previously. With a physical front line, reliable perimeter shooting and a young but experienced core that includes Schröder and Franz Wagner, Germany should be a leading contender at the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

Serbia: The Serbians only bolstered their reputation as a tough-minded, disciplined program by winning silver and putting together a 6-2 tournament run that saw them close within two points in the final minute of the championship game.

Nikola Jokic certainly would have made the difference against Germany, and the Serbians will be a force to be reckoned with next summer if he decides to compete in the Olympics. While Jokic is a nightmare matchup for any country, his size and playmaking ability in the middle of Serbia's attack would present major problems for the United States given its lack of imposing big men.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander: Hidden from casual basketball fans because his Oklahoma City Thunder isn't a regular on national television, Gilgeous-Alexander made great use of the World Cup stage by emerging as the tournament's best player. The 25-year-old guard averaged 24.5 points, 6.4 rebounds and 6.4 assists while leading Canada to bronze, its first World Cup medal.

Losers

United States: Steve Kerr's first run as U.S. coach ended with a fourth-place finish and no medal, much less the coveted gold, after an overtime loss to Canada in Sunday's bronze medal game. The Americans lost three games during the final eight days of the tournament as their defense and consistency eroded once the competition stiffened. This has become a familiar refrain: The United States was talented enough to smash cupcakes but not cohesive or experienced enough to keep up with top international opponents.

In fairness, Kerr coaxed better effort and camaraderie out of this group than Gregg Popovich managed when the United States finished seventh at the 2019 World Cup. Those positive developments weren't enough in the end, but they were signs of an improving culture for a program dealing with a constant churn of NBA stars. The real test for managing director Grant Hill and Kerr will be recruiting A-listers such as LeBron James, Kevin Durant and Stephen Curry for the 2024 Olympics. Regardless of who eventually commits, the pressure for the United States to win its fifth straight Olympic gold will be cranked up to 11 in Paris.

France, Spain and Australia: This year, the Americans were hardly alone when it came to soul-searching in the face of defeat. France, Spain and Australia entered the tournament with medal expectations but were eliminated before the knockout stage. All three countries find themselves working through major transitions.

France won silver at the 2020 Olympics and 2022 EuroBasket, but the Victor Wembanyama era can't get here soon enough with aging veterans such as Rudy Gobert and Nicolas Batum slipping noticeably. Spain, the 2022 EuroBasket champion and long-time U.S. rival, has yet to qualify for the 2024 Olympics or develop high-level stars to replace players such as Pau Gasol, Marc Gasol, Ricky Rubio and Rudy Fernandez. And Australia, so flush with optimism after winning bronze at the Tokyo Olympics, will clearly need more than Josh Giddey to carry its post-Patty Mills future.

Luka Doncic: There's no shame in Slovenia's seventh-place finish at the World Cup, but Doncic's frustration toward the officials during games against Australia and Canada was an absolute embarrassment. Against Australia, Doncic earned a technical foul for throwing the ball down the court unnecessarily and was forced to sit for long stretches of the game. Against Canada, he was ejected in the fourth quarter after gripping throughout the game. To make matters worse, the Dallas Mavericks star made the "money fingers" gesture toward FIBA executives — implying the referees were on the take — and then questioned the fairness of the officiating during his news conference after the loss to Canada.

Doncic is a brilliant scorer and playmaker, but his growing petulance will continue to sabotage his teams if it continues to go unchecked in Slovenia and Dallas. Despite Doncic's promises to reform his behavior, his comportment has regressed since his 2022 Western Conference finals appearance, and the costs are adding up: He argues so vociferously that he misses defensive assignments; his anger compromises his decision-making, shot selection and availability to play in key situations; and his teammates often get caught up in the distraction. Before the Mavericks settle on how to best deploy Doncic with Kyrie Irving, they must first explore every avenue to help their franchise player improve his competitive composure.

Jaren Jackson Jr.: Making Jackson (8.1 points per game, 2.9 rebounds per game) the lone scapegoat for the United States' shaky defensive performances in losses to Lithuania and Germany would be unfair because the Americans consistently struggled to defend the point of attack and rebound from the forward positions. But in the knockout stage, Jackson was unable to establish an interior presence befitting the reigning defensive player of the year.

Jackson excels for the Memphis Grizzlies as a freelancing power forward who often plays alongside a traditional center. At the World Cup, Jackson played center in smaller lineups that favored versatility and shooting over size, leaving him overwhelmed against players such as Jonas Valanciunas and Moritz Wagner. While persistent foul trouble appeared to drain his confidence, the United States desperately needs to keep Jackson in its pipeline for future tournaments given its limited supply of young big men.



JAM STA ROSA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Walker Kessler and the United States lost three of their final four games en route to a fourth-place finish at the FIBA World Cup.

SCOREBOARD

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL

NFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Dallas	1	0	0	1.000	40	0
Philadelphia	1	0	0	1.000	25	20
Washington	1	0	0	1.000	20	16
N.Y. Giants	0	1	0	.000	0	40

SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Atlanta	1	0	0	1.000	24	10
New Orleans	1	0	0	1.000	16	15
Tampa Bay	1	0	0	1.000	20	17
Carolina	0	1	0	.000	10	24

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Detroit	1	0	0	1.000	21	20
Green Bay	1	0	0	1.000	38	20
Chicago	0	1	0	.000	20	38
Minnesota	0	1	0	.000	17	20

WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
L.A. Rams	1	0	0	1.000	30	13
San Francisco	1	0	0	1.000	30	7
Arizona	0	1	0	.000	16	20
Seattle	0	1	0	.000	13	30

AFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Miami	1	0	0	1.000	36	34
N.Y. Jets	1	0	0	1.000	22	16
Buffalo	0	1	0	.000	16	22
New England	0	1	0	.000	20	25

SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Jacksonville	1	0	0	1.000	31	21
Houston	0	1	0	.000	9	25
Indianapolis	0	1	0	.000	21	31
Tennessee	0	1	0	.000	15	16

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Baltimore	1	0	0	1.000	25	9
Cleveland	1	0	0	1.000	24	3
Cincinnati	0	1	0	.000	3	24
Pittsburgh	0	1	0	.000	7	30

WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Las Vegas	1	0	0	1.000	17	16
Denver	0	1	0	.000	16	17
Kansas City	0	1	0	.000	20	21
L.A. Chargers	0	1	0	.000	34	36

WEEK 1
THURSDAY'S RESULT
Detroit 21, at Kansas City 20

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at Washington 20, Arizona 16
at Baltimore 25, Houston 9
at Atlanta 24, Carolina 10
at Cleveland 24, Cincinnati 3
Jacksonville 31, at Indianapolis 21
at New Orleans 16, Tennessee 15
San Francisco 30, at Pittsburgh 7
Tampa Bay 20, at Minnesota 17
Green Bay 38, at Chicago 20
L.A. Rams 30, at Seattle 13
Las Vegas 17, at Denver 16
Miami 36, at L.A. Chargers 34
Philadelphia 25, at New England 20
Dallas 40, at N.Y. Giants 0

MONDAY'S RESULT
at N.Y. Jets 22, Buffalo 16 (OT)

WEEK 2
THURSDAY'S GAME
Minnesota at Philadelphia (-7), 8:15

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Washington at Denver (-3½), 4:25
Baltimore at Cincinnati (-3½), 1
Chicago at Tampa Bay (-3), 1
Green Bay (-1½) at Atlanta, 1
Indianapolis (-1) at Houston, 1
Kansas City (-3) at Jacksonville, 1
L.A. Chargers (-3) at Tennessee, 1
Las Vegas at Buffalo (-9½), 1
Seattle at Detroit (-5½), 1
N.Y. Giants (-4½) at Arizona, 4:05
San Francisco (-8) at L.A. Rams, 4:05
N.Y. Jets at Dallas (-3), 4:25
Miami (-2) at New England, 8:20

MONDAY'S GAMES
New Orleans (-3) at Carolina, 7:15
Cleveland (-1½) at Pittsburgh, 8:15

Jets 22, Bills 16 (OT)

BUFFALO	3	10	0	3	0	—16
N.Y. JETS	0	3	3	10	6	—22

FIRST QUARTER
Buffalo: FG Bass 40, 3:05. **Drive:** 11 plays, 60 yards, 6:19. **Key Plays:** J.Allen 14 run on 3rd-and-10

SECOND QUARTER
N.Y. Jets: FG Zuerlein 26, 10:35. **Drive:** 5 plays, 88 yards, 2:27. **Key Plays:** Whitehead 0 interception return to N.Y. Jets 4
Buffalo: Diggs 5 pass from J.Allen (Bass kick), 4:43. **Drive:** 12 plays, 75 yards, 5:52. **Key Plays:** J.Allen 18 pass to Diggs
Buffalo: FG Bass 34, :17. **Drive:** 9 plays, 34 yards, 2:51. **Key Plays:** Milano 13 interception return to N.Y. Jets 35

THIRD QUARTER
N.Y. Jets: FG Zuerlein 43, 8:59. **Drive:** 13 plays, 50 yards, 6:01. **Key Plays:** Z.Wilson 12 pass to G.Wilson on 3rd-and-10

FOURTH QUARTER
N.Y. Jets: G.Wilson 3 pass from Z.Wilson (Zuerlein kick), 4:55. **Drive:** 8 plays, 52 yards, 4:48. **Key Plays:** Whitehead 0 interception return to N.Y. Jets 43
N.Y. Jets: FG Zuerlein 30, 1:48. **Drive:** 8 plays, 15 yards, 3:03. **Key Plays:** Z.Wilson 2 run on 4th-and-1
Buffalo: FG Bass 50, :02. **Drive:** 10 plays, 43 yards, 1:46. **Key Plays:** J.Allen 15 pass to Diggs

FIRST OVERTIME
N.Y. Jets: Gipson 65 punt return, 9:02. **Drive:** 5 plays, -2 yards, 00:58. N.Y. Jets 22, Buffalo 16.

	BUF	NYJ
First Downs	19	13
Rushing	8	5
Passing	11	7
Penalty	0	1
Third Down Eff	5-13	5-13
Fourth Down Eff	0-0	1-1
Total Net Yards	314	289
Total Plays	68	53
Avg Gain	4.6	5.5
Net Yards Rushing	97	172
Rushes	22	28
Avg Per Rush	4.409	6.143
Net Yards Passing	217	117
Sacked-Yds Lost	5-19	3-23
Gross-Yds Passing	236	140
Completed-Att.	29-41	14-22
Had Intercepted	3	1
Yards-Pass Play	4.717	4.68
Kickoffs-Endzone-Tb	5-4-3	6-6-6
Punts-Avg.	3-47.0	4-43.5
Punts Blocked	0	0
Fgs-Pats Blocked	0-0	0-0
Total Return Yardage	17	112
Punt Returns	1-4	2-66
Kickoff Returns	0-0	2-46
Interceptions	1-13	3-0
Penalties-Yds	5-40	2-10
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-0
Time Of Possession	33:08	27:50

PASSING
Buffalo: J.Allen 29-41-3-236.
N.Y. Jets: Z.Wilson 14-21-1-140, Rodgers 0-1-0-0.

RUSHING
Buffalo: Cook 12-46, J.Allen 6-36, Murray 2-8, Harty 1-4, Harris 1-3.
N.Y. Jets: Bre.Hall 10-127, Cook 13-33, Carter 1-6, Z.Wilson 4-6.

RECEIVING
Buffalo: Diggs 10-102, Kincaid 4-26, Cook 4-17, Knox 3-25, Harty 3-9, Davis 2-32, Harris 2-16, Murray 1-9.
N.Y. Jets: G.Wilson 5-34, Cook 3-26, Lazard 2-46, Carter 2-12, Bre.Hall 1-20, Conklin 1-2.

PUNT RETURNS
Buffalo: Harty 1-4.
N.Y. Jets: Gipson 2-66.

KICKOFF RETURNS
Buffalo: None. N.Y. Jets, Gipson 2-46.

TACKLES-ASSISTS-SACKS
Buffalo: Bernard 4-7-0, Poyer 4-3-0, Hyde 4-1-0, Benford 4-0-0, Milano 3-5-0, Oliver 3-2-.5, Phillips 3-0-1, Rapp 2-2-0, White 2-1-0, Jones 2-0-0, Floyd 1-2-1.5, Lawson 1-1-0, Epenesa 1-0-0, Rousseau 1-0-0, Settle 1-0-0.
N.Y. Jets: Reed 10-1-0, Quinc.Williams 9-1-0, Mosley 5-2-0, J.Johnson 4-1-1, Adams 4-1-0, Carter 3-2-0, Quinn.Williams 2-3-0, Jefferson 2-1-2, Gardner 2-1-0, Amos 2-0-0, Sherwood 2-0-0, Franklin-Myers 1-3-1, Whitehead 1-1-0, Woods 1-0-1, Clemons 1-0-0, McDonald 1-0-0, Thomas 1-0-0, Huff 0-2-0.

INTERCEPTIONS
Buffalo: Milano 1-13.
N.Y. Jets: Whitehead 3-0.

MISSED FIELD GOALS
None.

TRANSACTIONS

NFL

Atlanta Falcons: Released RB Godwin Igwebuike.
Carolina Panthers: Signed OT David Sharpe. Signed DE Chris Wormley and CB Dicaprio Bootle to the practice squad. Re-signed LB Deion Jones to the practice squad.
Chicago Bears: Signed LB Dylan Cole.
Denver Broncos: Waived DT Forrest Merril from injured reserve with a settlement.
New York Jets: Promoted LB Sam Eguavoen from the practice squad to the active roster.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

NCAA

THURSDAY'S GAMES
SOUTH
Navy (1-1) at Memphis (2-0), 7:30
Bethune Cookman (1-1) at Miami (2-0), 7:30

FRIDAY'S GAMES
EAST
Virginia (0-2) at Maryland (2-0), 7

SOUTHWEST
Army (1-1) at UTSA (1-1), 7

WEST
Utah State (1-1) at Air Force (2-0), 8

SATURDAY'S GAMES
EAST
Liberty (2-0) at Buffalo (0-2), noon
Holy Cross (1-1) at Yale (0-0), noon
Cornell (0-0) at Lehigh (1-1), noon
Florida State (2-0) at Boston College (1-1), noon
Columbia (0-0) at Lafayette (1-1), 12:30
Stonehill (1-1) at Georgetown (2-0), 12:30
Wagner (0-2) at Sacred Heart (0-2), 1
St. Thomas (Minn.) (1-1) at Harvard (0-0), 1
Campbell (1-1) at Monmouth (N.J.) (1-1), 1
Penn (0-0) at Colgate (0-2), 1
Davidson (0-2) at Marist (0-1), 1
Norfolk State (1-1) at Temple (1-1), 2
Rhode Island (1-1) at Maine (0-2), 3:30
Virginia Tech (1-1) at Rutgers (2-0), 3:30
Howard (1-1) vs. Hampton (1-1) in Washington, D.C., 3:30
FIU (2-1) at Connecticut (0-2), 3:30
Brown (0-0) at Bryant (1-1), 4
Virginia Lynchburg (0-1) at Merrimack (0-2), 6
Towson (0-2) at Morgan State (1-1), 6
St. Francis (Pa.) (0-2) at Delaware (1-1), 6
Dartmouth (0-0) at New Hampshire (1-1), 6
Pittsburgh (1-1) at West Virginia (1-1), 7:30

SOUTH
Wake Forest (2-0) at Old Dominion (1-1), noon
LSU (1-1) at Mississippi State (2-0), noon
VMI (1-1) at North Carolina State (1-1), 2
Florida Memorial (0-0) at Grambling State (0-2), 3
Northwestern (1-1) at Duke (2-0), 3:30
Delaware State (0-2) at Richmond (0-2), 3:30
Alabama (1-1) at South Florida (1-1), 3:30
South Carolina (1-1) at Georgia (2-0), 3:30
East Carolina (0-2) at Appalachian State (1-1), 3:30
Minnesota (2-0) at North Carolina (2-0), 3:30
Tulane (1-1) at Southern Mississippi (1-1), 4
William & Mary (2-0) at Charleston Southern (1-1), 4
Furman (1-1) at Kennesaw State (1-1), 5
Presbyterian (1-1) at Wofford (0-2), 6
West Florida (0-0) at Florida A&M (1-1), 6
Gardner Webb (1-1) at Tennessee State (1-1), 6
Georgia State (2-0) at Charlotte (1-1), 6
Western Carolina (1-1) at Eastern Kentucky (0-2), 6
North Carolina A&T (0-2) at Elon (0-2), 6
The Citadel (0-2) at Chattanooga (1-1), 6
Villanova (2-0) at UCF (2-0), 6:30
MVSU (0-1) at Delta State (0-0), 7
Duquesne (1-1) at Coastal Carolina (1-1), 7
McNeese State (0-2) at Alcorn State (0-2), 7
North Alabama (1-2) at Tennessee Tech (0-2), 7
Houston Christian (1-1) at UT Martin (1-1), 7
Murray State (1-1) at Middle Tennessee (0-2), 7
James Madison (2-0) at Troy (1-1), 7
Samford (1-1) at Auburn (2-0), 7
Stephen F. Austin (1-1) at Northwestern State (0-2), 7
Alabama A&M (1-1) at Southern (0-2), 7
North Texas (0-2) at Louisiana Tech (2-1), 7
Louisiana Lafayette (1-1) at UAB (1-1), 7
Tennessee (2-0) at Florida (1-1), 7
ETSU (1-1) at Austin Peay (0-2), 7
Akron (1-1) at Kentucky (2-0), 7:30
Georgia Tech (1-1) at Mississippi (2-0), 7:30
FAU (1-1) at Clemson (1-1), 8

MIDWEST
Penn State (2-0) at Illinois (1-1), noon
Kansas State (2-0) at Missouri (2-0), noon
CCSU (1-1) at Kent State (0-2), noon
Iowa State (1-1) at Ohio (2-1), noon
Indiana (1-1) vs. Louisville (2-0) in Indianapolis, noon
Georgia Southern (2-0) at Wisconsin (1-1), noon
Taylor (0-1) at Dayton (1-1), 1
Robert Morris (1-1) at Youngstown State (1-1), 2
Indiana State (0-2) at Ball State (0-2), 2
Massachusetts (1-2) at Eastern Michigan (1-1), 2
Lamar (0-2) at South Dakota (1-1), 2
Central Michigan (1-1) at Notre Dame (3-0), 2:30
Illinois State (2-0) at Eastern Illinois (1-1), 3
Western Michigan (1-1) at Iowa (2-0), 3:30
Central Arkansas (1-1) at North Dakota State (2-0), 3:30
South Dakota State (2-0) vs. Drake (0-2) in Minneapolis, 3:30
Western Kentucky (2-0) at Ohio State (2-0), 4
Washington (2-0) at Michigan State (2-0), 5
Wabash (0-0) at Butler (1-1), 6
Lindenwood (Mo.) (1-1) at Western Illinois (0-2), 7
Southern Illinois (2-0) at Southeast Missouri State (1-1), 7
Miami (Ohio) (1-1) at Cincinnati (2-0), 7
San Jose State (1-2) at Toledo (1-1), 7
Northern Illinois (1-1) at Nebraska (0-2), 7
Syracuse (2-0) at Purdue (1-1), 7:30
Bowling Green (1-1) at Michigan (2-0), 7:30

SOUTHWEST
LIU Brooklyn (0-2) at Baylor (0-2), noon
Oklahoma (2-0) at Tulsa (1-1), 3:30
Louisiana Monroe (2-0) at Texas A&M (1-1), 4
Miles (1-0) at Arkansas Pine Bluff (0-2), 5
Stony Brook (0-2) at Arkansas State (0-2), 7
Prairie View (1-1) at SMU (1-1), 7
Tarleton State (2-0) at Texas Tech (0-2), 7
South Alabama (1-1) at Oklahoma State (2-0), 7
Texas Southern (0-2) at Rice (1-1), 7
BYU (2-0) at Arkansas (2-0), 7:30
Wyoming (2-0) at Texas (2-0), 8
Incarnate Word (1-1) at Abilene Christian (2-0), 8
TCU (1-1) at Houston (1-1), 8
Jackson State (2-1) at Texas State (1-1), 8:30

WEST
North Dakota (2-0) at Boise State (0-2), noon
Weber State (2-0) at Utah (2-0), 2
Stetson (2-0) at Montana State (1-1), 3
San Diego State (2-1) at Oregon State (2-0), 3:30
North American University (0-0) at Portland State (0-2), 4
Southeastern Louisiana (0-2) at Eastern Washington (0-2), 4
Princeton (0-0) at San Diego (0-2), 4
Idaho (2-0) at California (1-1), 4
Utah Tech (0-2) at Northern Arizona (0-2), 4
North Carolina Central (2-0) at UCLA (2-0), 5
Northern Colorado (0-2) at Washington State (2-0), 5
Northern Iowa (0-2) at Idaho State (0-2), 6
Vanderbilt (2-1) at UNLV (1-1), 7
New Mexico State (1-2) at New Mexico (1-1), 8
Sacramento State (2-0) at Stanford (1-1), 8
Hawaii (1-2) at Oregon (2-0), 8
Lincoln University (CA) (0-0) at Cal Poly (1-1), 8
Ferris State (0-0) at Montana (2-0), 8
Southern Utah (0-2) at UC Davis (1-1), 10
Colorado State (0-1) at Colorado (2-0), 10
Kansas (2-0) at Nevada (0-2), 10:30
Fresno State (2-0) at Arizona State (1-1), 10:30
UTEP (1-2) at Arizona (1-1), 11

GOLF

Official World Golf Ranking

Through Sunday.

1.	Scottie Scheffler	11.70
2.	Rory McIlroy	10.97
3.	Jon Rahm	9.63
4.	Viktor Hovland	7.71
5.	Patrick Cantlay	7.36
6.	Xander Schauffele	6.83
7.	Max Homa	5.31
8.	Matt Fitzpatrick	5.14
9.	Brian Harman	5.03
10.	Wyndham Clark	4.89
11.	Jordan Spieth	4.43
12.	Cameron Smith	4.39
13.	Tyrrell Hatton	4.22
14.	Tommy Fleetwood	4.14
15.	Brooks Koepka	4.14
16.	Cameron Young	4.11
17.	Keegan Bradley	4.06
18.	Tom Kim	4.02
19.	Collin Morikawa	4.00
20.	Sam Burns	3.92
21.	Tony Finau	3.82
22.	Jason Day	3.66
23.	Sepp Straka	3.65
24.	Justin Thomas	3.56
25.	Rickie Fowler	3.51
26.	Will Zalatoris	3.51
27.	Sungjae Im	3.43
28.	Russell Henley	3.36
29.	Kurt Kitayama	3.11
30.	Lucas Glover	3.01
31.	Corey Conners	2.93
32.	Shane Lowry	2.74
33.	Hideki Matsuyama	2.72
34.	Emiliano Grillo	2.71
35.	Denny McCarthy	2.70
36.	Justin Rose	2.68
37.	Sahith Theegala	2.65
38.	Harris English	2.57
39.	Si Woo Kim	2.56
40.	Adam Schenk	2.35
41.	J.T. Poston	2.34
42.	Ryan Fox	2.29
43.	Adam Scott	2.28
44.	Chris Kirk	2.20
45.	Taylor Moore	2.16
46.	Nick Taylor	2.14
47.	Min Woo Lee	2.12
48.	Tom Hoge	2.10
49.	Cameron Davis	2.07
50.	Billy Horschel	2.06

LPGA Tour

MONEY LEADERS
Through Sunday.

		Trn	Money
1.	Allisen Corpuz	20	$2,952,832
2.	Ruoning Yin	16	$2,626,543
3.	Lilia Vu	15	$2,564,131
4.	Charley Hull	15	$2,292,687
5.	Celine Boutier	17	$2,185,557
6.	Hyo Joo Kim	15	$1,737,687
7.	Yuka Saso	16	$1,683,474
8.	Jin Young Ko	14	$1,490,931
9.	Ayaka Furue	19	$1,486,620
10.	Xiyu Lin	17	$1,484,218
11.	Nasa Hataoka	18	$1,430,369
12.	Brooke M. Henderson	20	$1,381,244

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
y-New York	32	8	.800	—
y-Connecticut	27	13	.675	5
y-Atlanta	19	21	.475	13
y-Washington	19	21	.475	13
y-Chicago	18	22	.450	14
Indiana	13	27	.325	19

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Las Vegas	34	6	.850	—
y-Dallas	22	18	.550	12
y-Minnesota	19	21	.475	15
Los Angeles	17	23	.425	17
Seattle	11	29	.275	23
Phoenix	9	31	.225	25

y-Clinched playoff spot

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 90, at New York 88
at Indiana 87, Minnesota 72
Dallas 94, at Atlanta 77
Chicago 102, at Connecticut 91 (OT)
at Las Vegas 100, Phoenix 85
Los Angeles 91, at Seattle 89

END OF REGULAR SEASON

WNBA playoffs

Best of three; x-If necessary

FIRST ROUND
LIBERTY VS. MYSTICS
Friday's game: Washington at New York, 7:30
Tuesday, Sept. 19: Washington at New York, 7
x-Friday, Sept. 22: New York at Washington, 8

ACES VS. SKY
Wednesday's game: Chicago at Las Vegas, 10
Sunday's game: Chicago at Las Vegas, 3
x-Wednesday, Sept. 20: Las Vegas at Chicago, 10

SUN VS. LYNX
Wednesday's game: Minnesota at Connecticut, 8
Sunday's game: Minnesota at Connecticut, 1
x-Wednesday, Sept. 20: Connecticut at Minnesota, 8

WINGS VS. DREAM
Friday's game: Atlanta at Dallas, 9:30
Tuesday, Sept. 19: Atlanta at Dallas, 9
x-Friday, Sept. 22: Dallas at Atlanta, 10

SEMIFINALS
SEPT. 24-OCT. 3
Best of five
New York/Washington winner vs. Connecticut/Minnesota winner
Las Vegas/Chicago winner vs. Dallas/Atlanta winner

FINALS
OCT. 8-20
Best of five
Semifinal winners

HIGH SCHOOLS

MONDAY'S RESULTS
FOOTBALL
MARYLAND
Calvert 45, Chopitcon 14
C.H. Flowers 48, Oxon Hill 7
Glenelg 48, Hammond 0
Howard 12, River Hill 8
Largo 22, Central 8
Reservoir 51, Oakland Mills 21
Westlake 26, St. Charles 18

BOYS' SOCCER
MARYLAND
Blair 1, Northwood 0
Blake 6, Magruder 2
CMIT North 2, Douglass 0
Northwest 2, Whitman 1
South River 2, Urbana 1
Watkins Mill 2, Kennedy 1

GIRLS' SOCCER
MARYLAND
Magruder 7, Blake 0
Walter Johnson 3, Wootton 1

FIELD HOCKEY
MARYLAND
Bethesda-Chevy Chase 8, Watkins Mill 0
Broadneck 7, McDonogh 0
Churchill 1, Quince Orchard 0
Crofton 3, Severna Park 1
Glen Burnie 1, Concordia Prep 0
Heritage 6, Champe 0
Marriotts Ridge 14, Oakland Mills 0
Sherwood 3, Magruder 0
South River 2, Chesapeake 1
Whitman 9, Seneca Valley 0

PRIVATE
Good Counsel 4, Holton-Arms 0
Spalding 4, Maryvale Prep 0

VIRGINIA
Marshall 3, Edison 0
Riverside 4, Loudoun County 2
Robinson 1, Langley 0

VOLLEYBALL
MARYLAND
Blair def. Blake 3-0
Eleanor Roosevelt def. High Point 3-0 (25-12, 25-12, 25-14)

VIRGINIA
Freedom (South Riding) def. Lightridge 3-1
Langley def. Marshall 3-0
Loudoun County def. Loudoun Valley 3-0 (25-18, 25-22, 25-12)
Riverside def. Tuscarora 3-0 (25-9, 25-13, 25-13)
Stone Bridge def. Woodgrove 3-0 (25-17, 25-20, 25-18)
Yorktown def. Wakefield 3-1

PRIVATE
Glenelg Country def. St. Mary's (Annapolis) 3-1 (25-18, 25-20, 24-27, 25-17)

GIRLS' TENNIS
PRIVATE
Bishop Ireton 7, Trinity Christian 2

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series

SCHEDULE-WINNERS
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 1 (Aric Almirola)
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 2 (Martin Truex Jr.)
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 3, (Denny Hamlin)
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 4, (William Byron)
Feb. 5: x-Last Chance Qualifying Race 1 (Michael McDowell)
Feb. 5: x-Last Chance Qualifying Race 2 (Chase Elliott)
Feb. 5: x- Clash at the Coliseum (Martin Truex Jr.)
Feb. 16: x-Duel at Daytona 1 (Joey Logano)
Feb. 16: x-Duel at Daytona 2 (Aric Almirola)
Feb. 19: Daytona 500 (Ricky Stenhouse Jr.)
Feb. 26: Pala Casino 400 (Kyle Busch)
March 5: Pennzoil 400 (William Byron)
March 12: Work United 500 (William Byron)
March 19: Ambetter 400 (Joey Logano)
March 26: EchoPark Automotive Grand Prix (Tyler Reddick)
April 2: Toyota Owners 400 (Kyle Larson)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 1 (Austin Dillon)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 2 (Ryan Blaney)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 3 (Kyle Larson)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 4 (Bubba Wallace)
April 9: Food City Dirt Race (Christopher Bell)
April 16: NOCO 400 (Kyle Larson)
April 23: Geico 500 (Kyle Busch)
April 30: Würth 400 (Martin Truex Jr.)
May 7: AdventHealth 400 (Denny Hamlin)
May 14: Goodyear 400 (William Byron)
May 20: x-Heat Race 1 (Daniel Suárez)
May 20: x-Heat Race 2 (Chris Buescher)
May 21: x-NASCAR All-Star Open (Josh Berry)
May 21: NASCAR All-Star Race (Kyle Larson)
May 28: Coca-Cola 600 (Ryan Blaney)
June 4: Enjoy Illinois 300 (Kyle Busch)
June 11: Toyota/Save Mart 350 (Martin Truex Jr.)
June 25: Ally 400 (Ross Chastain)
July 2: Grant Park 220 (Shane van Gisbergen)
July 9: Quaker State 400 (William Byron)
July 16: Crayon 301 (Martin Truex Jr.)
July 23: HighPoint.com 400 (Denny Hamlin)
July 30: Cook Out 400 (Chris Buescher)
Aug. 7: FireKeepers Casino 400 (Chris Buescher)
Aug. 13: Verizon 200 at the Brickyard (Michael McDowell)
Aug. 20: Go Bowling at The Glen (William Byron)
Aug. 26: Coke Zero Sugar 400 (Chris Buescher)
Sept. 3: Southern 500 (Kyle Larson)
Sept. 10: Hollywood Casino 400 (Tyler Reddick)
Sept. 16: Bass Pro Shops Night Race, Bristol, Tenn.
Sept. 24: AutoTrader EchoPark Automotive 400, Fort Worth
Oct. 1: YellaWood 500, Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 8: Roval 400, Concord, N.C.
Oct. 15: South Point 400, Las Vegas
Oct. 22: NASCAR Cup Series Race, Homestead, Fla.
Oct. 29: Xfinity 500, Ridgeway, Va.
Nov. 5: NASCAR Cup Series Race Championship, Avondale, Ariz.

x-Non-points race

NASCAR Cup Series

POINTS LEADERS
Entering Saturday's race.
1. Kyle Larson, 2117.
2. Tyler Reddick, 2111.
3. Denny Hamlin, 2105.
4. William Byron, 2097.
5. Brad Keselowski, 2089.
6. Ryan Blaney, 2081.
7. Kyle Busch, 2080.
8. Ross Chastain, 2074.
9. Chris Buescher, 2069.
10. Christopher Bell, 2069.
11. Joey Logano, 2068.
12. Kevin Harvick, 2063.
13. Martin Truex Jr, 2056.
14. Bubba Wallace, 2044.
15. Ricky Stenhouse Jr, 2041.
16. Michael McDowell, 2023.

SOCCER

MLS

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Cincinnati	17	4	6	57	44	30
New England	13	5	9	48	46	32
Orlando City	13	6	8	47	41	31
Philadelphia	14	8	4	46	47	31
Columbus	13	8	6	45	54	37
Atlanta	11	8	9	42	51	43
Nashville	11	9	7	40	32	27
CF Montréal	11	14	2	35	28	40
D.C. United	9	12	7	34	37	38
Chicago	8	11	8	32	32	42
Charlotte FC	7	9	10	31	34	43
New York City FC	6	10	12	30	28	36
New York	7	12	8	29	24	33
Inter Miami CF	8	14	4	28	30	39
Toronto FC	4	13	10	22	23	39

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis City SC	15	10	3	48	55	37
Seattle	11	9	8	41	34	29
Los Angeles FC	11	9	7	40	40	32
Real Salt Lake	11	9	7	40	38	39
Houston	11	10	6	39	36	31
Vancouver	10	8	8	38	43	36
Minnesota United	9	8	10	37	34	33
San Jose	9	9	10	37	32	36
FC Dallas	9	10	7	34	29	30
Austin FC	9	12	6	33	38	43
Portland	8	11	9	33	34	44
Sporting KC	8	12	8	32	38	40
LA Galaxy	7	10	9	30	33	41
Colorado	3	13	10	19	16	39

SUNDAY'S RESULT
St. Louis City SC 2, at LA Galaxy 2

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
D.C. United at Charlotte FC, 7:30
New York at New York City FC, 3:30
Miami at Atlanta, 5
Chicago at CF Montréal, 7:30
Columbus at Orlando City, 7:30
Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 7:30
Vancouver at Toronto FC, 7:30
Seattle at FC Dallas, 8:30
St. Louis City SC at Houston, 8:30
Sporting KC at Minnesota, 8:30
New England at Colorado, 9:30
LA Galaxy at Los Angeles FC, 10:30
Real Salt Lake at San Jose, 10:30

SUNDAY'S MATCH
Portland at Austin FC, 8:30

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20
Atlanta at D.C. United, 7:30
Philadelphia at Charlotte FC, 7:30
Chicago at Columbus, 7:30
Toronto FC at Miami, 7:30
Cincinnati at CF Montréal, 7:30
Austin FC at New York, 7:30
Orlando City at New York City FC, 7:30
Vancouver at Houston, 8:30
Nashville at Sporting KC, 8:30
Los Angeles FC at St. Louis City SC, 8:30
Seattle at Colorado, 9:30
FC Dallas at Real Salt Lake, 9:30
Minnesota at LA Galaxy, 10:30
San Jose at Portland, 10:30

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego	9	6	3	30	26	20
Portland	8	5	5	29	38	25
North Carolina	8	6	4	28	26	19
OL Reign	8	7	3	27	25	21
Gotham FC	7	5	6	27	21	19
Washington	6	4	8	26	24	25
Louisville	5	4	9	24	22	18
Angel City	6	6	6	24	22	25
Orlando	7	10	1	22	21	24
Houston	4	6	8	20	12	15
Chicago	6	10	2	20	22	39
Kansas City	6	11	1	19	19	28

SUNDAY, SEPT. 3
Chicago 2, at Washington 0
at OL Reign 1, Orlando 0
at San Diego 1, Houston 0

FRIDAY'S MATCH
Houston at Louisville, 7:30

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Washington at Gotham FC, 7:30
Kansas City at San Diego, 10
OL Reign at Portland, 10:30

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
Angel City at Chicago, 6
North Carolina at Orlando, 7

TENNIS

WTA

SAN DIEGO OPEN
At Barnes Tennis Center; in San Diego
Purse: $780,637
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Anastasia Potapova, Russia, def. Alycia Parks, United States, 6-2, 5-7, 6-4; Emma Navarro, United States, def. Jasmine Paolini, Italy, 7-5, 6-0; Katie Volynets, United States, def. Clervie Ngounoue, United States, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2; Camila Osorio, Colombia, def. Magdalena Frech, Poland, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

DOUBLES — ROUND OF 16
Barbora Krejcikova and Katerina Siniakova (1), Czech Republic, def. Caroline Garcia, France, and Demi Schuurs, Netherlands, 7-6 (7-4), 7-5.

JAPAN OPEN
At Regional Park Tennis Stadium; in Osaka
Purse: $259,303
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Ashlyn Krueger, United States, def. Kateryna Baindl (8), Ukraine, 6-2, 6-3; Nadia Podoroska (5), Argentina, def. Yuan Yue, China, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5; Valeria Savinykh, Russia, def. Anna-Lena Friedsam, Germany, 6-4, 1-6, 6-3; Yulia Putintseva (6), Kazakhstan, def. Diana Shnaider, Russia, 6-2, 6-3; Moyuka Uchijima, Japan, def. Ankita Raina, India, 6-4, 6-2; Elizabeth Mandlik, United States, def. Diane Parry, France, 7-5, 6-2.

DOUBLES — ROUND OF 16
Natela Dzalamidze and Sofya Lansere, Russia, def. Latisha Chan, Taiwan, and Zhu Lin (1), China, 6-3, 6-3; Momoko Kobori and Natsumi Kawaguchi, Japan, def. Viktorija Golubic, Switzerland, and Panna Udvardy, Hungary, 6-4, 6-4.

TIRIAC FOUNDATION TROPHY
At National Tennis Centre; in Bucharest
Purse: $115,000
Surface: Red clay

SINGLES — QUALIFICATION ROUND
Marie Benoit (3), Belgium, def. Suzan Lamens (5), Netherlands, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; Darya Astakhova (1), Russia, def. Ella Seidel, Germany, 6-4, 6-3; Maria Sara PoPa, Romania, def. Cristina Dinu, Romania, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4.

SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Astra Sharma, Australia, def. Ylena In-Albon, Switzerland, 6-2, 6-1; Noma Noha Akugue (7), Germany, def. Katarina Zavatska, Ukraine, 6-3, 6-4; Ilinca Dalina Amariei, Romania, def. Irene Burillo Escorihuela, Spain, 6-4, 6-4; Jessica Bouzas Maneiro (6), Spain, def. Alexandra Cadantu-Ignatik, Romania, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3; Anca Alexia Todoni, Romania, def. Carole Monnet, France, 6-3, 6-0.

ZAVAROVALNICA SAVA LJUBLJANA
At TC ZTK Ljubljana; in Ljubljana, Slovenia
Purse: $115,000
Surface: Red clay

SINGLES — QUALIFICATION ROUND
Michaela Bayerlova (4), Czech Republic, def. Zoja Peternel, Slovenia, 6-3, 6-1; Gabriela Knutson (2), Czech Republic, def. Andrea Gamiz, Venezuela, 6-4, 6-2; Ashley Lahey (3), United States, def. Ela Plosnik, Slovenia, 6-2, 6-2; Oleksandra Oliynykova, Ukraine, def. Reka Luca Jani (1), Hungary, 7-5, 6-3.

SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Anna-Karolina Schmiedlova (1), Slovakia, def. Nigina Abduraimova, Uzbekistan, 6-3, 6-2; Aliona Bolsova (2), Spain, def. Nina Potocnik, Slovenia, 6-2, 6-3; Antonia Ruzic, Croatia, def. Raluca Georgiana Serban (7), Cyprus, 6-2, 6-0; Sapfo Sakellaridi, Greece, def. Weronika Falkowska, Poland, 6-1, 6-2; Pia Lovric, Slovenia, def. Natalia Szabanin, Hungary, 6-4, 6-2; Lucija Ciric-Bagaric, Croatia, def. Sinja Kraus, Austria, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

DOUBLES — ROUND OF 16
Erika Andreeva, Russia, and Sara Bejlek, Czech Republic, def. Dalila Jakupovic and Veronika Erjavec, Slovenia, 1-6, 7-5, 10-4; Yuliana Lizarazo, Colombia, and Freya Christie (4), Britain, def. Marina Bassols Ribera, Spain, and Kaja Juvan, Slovenia, 6-4, 4-6, 10-5.

LOCAL GOLF

CHANTILLY
Shelley Savage, Judi Enright, Sarah Alvarez and Debbie Simpson won the gross title of the WDCGA anniversary tournament with a total gross score of 145. Karen McGee, Laurie Stein, Jeamsook Kim and Soon-Rae Pinkos won the net title of the WDCGA anniversary tournament with a total net score of 132.

The Washington Post

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

EZ

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rentals
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merchandise, garage sales, auctions, tickets
washingtonpost.com/merchandise

dogs, cats, birds, fish
washingtonpost.com/pets

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825 Bids & Proposals

CESAR CHAVEZ PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Bus Transportation for Student Trips and Events

Cesar Chavez PCS —a nonprofit, public charter school in Northwest Washington, DC—seeks transportation contractors for student activities and events.

The school plans to enter into agreements with several transportation companies.

For all proposals, please send them to procurement@chavezschools.org by Friday, September 15, 2023, by 5 pm.

850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, MARYLAND

WILLIAM M. SAVAGE, et al.
Trustee(s) Plaintiff(s)

vs.

ELIZABETH LOPEZ
Defendant(s)
Mortgagor(s)

CIVIL NO: C15CV23001476

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, this **23rd day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for the County of Montgomery, Maryland and by the authority thereof, that the sale made by William M. Savage, Gregory N. Britto, Trustees, of the Real Property designated as **19415 Brassie Pl Apt 104, Montgomery Village, MD 20886**, and reported in the above entitled cause, will be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **22nd day of September, 2023** next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in THE WASHINGTON POST, 1150 15th Street, Washington DC, MD published in said County of Montgomery once a week for three successive weeks before the **22nd day of September, 2023.** The report states the amount of the sale to be **$110,500.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Trustees File#: 23-293231

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433621

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

VS.

BARBARA ANNETTE SHERMAN AKA
BARBARA ANNETTE SHERMAN-ROCHA
(DECEASED)
3333 University Boulevard West
Unit 601
Kensington, MD 20895
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-15-CV-23-001342

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **30th day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **3333 University Boulevard West, Unit 601, Kensington, MD 20895**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **2nd day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2nd day of October, 2023**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$255,000.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Montgomery County, Maryland

BWW#MD-356776

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434371

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850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

JOSUE E. JIMENEZ
8323 Shady Spring Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-15-CV-23-001465

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **30th day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **8323 Shady Spring Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20877**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **29th day of September, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **29th day of September, 2023**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$365,000.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Montgomery County, Maryland

BWW#MD-361111

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434372

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, MARYLAND

WILLIAM M. SAVAGE, et al.
Trustee(s)
Plaintiff(s)

vs.

KYALO KIBUA
Defendant(s)
Mortgagor(s)

CIVIL NO: C-15-CV-23-001328

NOTICE

NOTICE JS HEREBY GTVEN, this **22nd day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for the County of Montgomery, Maryland and by the authority thereof, that the sale made by William M. Savage, Gregory N. Britto, Trustees, of the Real Property designated as **2309 London Bridge Dr, Silver Spring, MD 20906**, and reported in the above entitled cause, will be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **22nd day of September, 2023** next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in THE WASHINGTON POST, 1150 15th Street, Washington DC, MD published in said County of Montgomery once a week for three successive weeks before the **22nd day of September, 2023**. The report states the amount of the sale to be **$329,000.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Trustees File#: 22-292450

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433617

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

John Ansell, et al.
Substitute Trustees
Plaintiffs,

V.

Johanna Elizabeth Ramirez, Surviving Joint Tenant of Leonor Rojas Bikle a/k/a Leonor V. Bikle,
Defendant

Case No. C-15-CV-22-004206

NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued this **24 day of August, 2023** that the sale of the property in this case, **18816 Walkers Choice Road, Unit 3, Montgomery Village, Maryland 20886**, reported by John Ansell, Jeremy B. Wilkins, Robert A. Oliveri, Amanda Driscole, Paul Heinmuller, John C. Hanrahan, Kristopher Hawkins, Substitute Trustees, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the **25 day of September, 2023** provided a copy of this Notice be inserted in Washington Post, a newspaper published in Montgomery County, Maryland, once in each of three (3) successive weeks on or before the **25 day of September, 2023.** The report states the amount of sale to be **$145,000.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433688

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820 Official Notices

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS
ONE COUNTY COMPLEX COURT
PRINCE WILLIAM, VIRGINIA 22192

September 26, 2023
Public Hearings

7:30 p.m.

1. **Rezoning #REZ2018-00024, MGM Enterprises Office Building:** To rezone ±4.76 acres from A-1, Agricultural, and O(L), Office Low-Rise, to O(M), Office Mid-Rise, to develop a four-story mixed-use building with office and retail space at a maximum height of 55 feet. The site is located along eastbound Prince William Parkway; ±125 feet west of the intersection with Hoffman Dr. and ±1,225 feet southeast of the intersection with Hillendale Dr. The subject property is currently addressed as 3939 Prince William Parkway and is identified on County maps as GPIN 8192-66-8293. The site is currently designated OMU-3, Office Mixed Use, which recommends up to 0.57 FAR in the Comprehensive Plan; and is located within the Dale City Small Area Plan and Dale City Parkway Node special planning areas, and partially located within the Prince William Parkway Highway Corridor Overlay District. **Neabsco Magisterial District**

2. **Special Use Permit #SUP2023-00015, Jiffy Lube SUP Amendment**: This is a request to amend SUP1999-0039 to add one additional service bay to the existing building. The Property is located on 13300 Minnieville Road, approximately 560 feet east of Fowke Lane. The subject site is identified on County maps as GPIN 8292-66-0804 on ± 0.75 acres; is zoned B-1, Commercial and is designated MU-4, Mixed-Use with which recommends up to 1.38 FAR in the Comprehensive Plan; and is located within the Highway Corridor Overlay District. **Occoquan Magisterial District.**

3. **Special Use Permit #SUP2023-00016, Rona Naill Family Day Home:** This is a request for a special use permit to allow a family day home for up to 5 children and 1 employee. The site is located at 12967 Terminal Way, approximately ±205 feet northwest of the intersection of Ticket Way and Terminal Way, the property is identified on County maps as GPIN 8093-00-2608. The site is zoned RPC, Residential Planned Community and is designated RPC, Residential Planned Community, in the Comprehensive Plan and is located within the Highway Corridor Overlay District, the Environmental Resource Protection Overlay, and the Agritourism and Arts Overlay District. Neabsco Magisterial District

4. **Special Use Permit #SUP2023-00029, Sicat Home Business**: This is a request for a special use to allow a home-based firearm business processing and dealing in firearm sales, transfers, gunsmithing, and firearms manufacturing with walk-in customers by appointment only, in a single-family dwelling. The property is located ±75 feet northwest of the intersection of Blackburn Ridge Drive and Wheeler Ridge Drive; is addressed as 11168-Wheeler Ridge Drive; and is identified on County maps as GPIN 7597-83-6333. The site is zoned PMR, Planned Mixed Residential, and is designated RN-3, Residential Neighborhood, in the Comprehensive Plan and is located within the Sudley Road Redevelopment Corridor, the Airport Safety Overlay District, and the Agritourism and Arts Overlay District. **Gainesville Magisterial District**

5. **Special Use Permit #SUP2022-00026, RMFD Enterprises Home Business:** This is a request for a special use permit to allow a home-based business to buy and sell firearms with walk-in customers by appointment only, in a single-family dwelling. The property is located ±230 feet southwest of the intersection of Cockspur Lane and Thunderbolt Road in the Potomac Shores Community. The property is identified on County maps as GPIN 8288-68-6650 and is addressed as 2765 Cockspur Lane. The site is zoned PMR, Planned Mixed Residential and is designated RN-2, Residential Neighborhood, in the Comprehensive Plan, and is located within the Marine Corps Base Quantico Special Planning Area. **Potomac Magisterial District**

For additional information regarding the Board meeting, please contact the Clerk to the Board at (703) 792-6600. All meeting materials are posted online when the agenda is published, and a copy of all staff reports, proposed resolutions and ordinances, and other documentation will be available for review by the public in the office of the Clerk of the Board at One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, 22192.

Members of the public may appear at the Board of County Supervisors' Chamber in the McCoart Building, One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, at the designated time to express their views.

ACCESSIBILITY TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: The hearings are being held at a public facility believed to be accessible to persons with disabilities. Any persons with questions on the accessibility of the facility should contact the Clerk to the Board at One County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, or by telephone at (703) 792-6600 or TDD (703) 792-6295. Persons needing translation or interpreter services must notify the Clerk to the Board no later than 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

ERIC D. VANDELINDE
201 International Circle,
Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030
Substitute Trustee
Plaintiff

V.

SOMERS, LORRAINE
13000 SHADYSIDE LN
UNIT 13-217,
GERMANTOWN, MD 20874
Defendant

Civil No.: C-15-CV-22-000838

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court of MONTGOMERY COUNTY this **29th day of August, 2023** that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported by Eric D. Vandelinde, Substitute Trustee, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **28th day of September, 2023**, provided, a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a newspaper published in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, once in each of three successive weeks, before the **28th day of September, 2023.** The Report of Sale states the amount of sale to be **$245,000.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk Circuit Court for
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434289

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane S. Rosenberg, et al
4340 East West Highway,
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustee
Plaintiff(s)

V.

Jorge David Rojas
18520 Grouse Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
Defendant(s)

Case No. C-15-CV-23-001481

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **24th day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, that the sale of **18520 Grouse Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20879**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **25th day of September, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be inserted The Washington Post in a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **25th day of September, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$309,000.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Montgomery County, Maryland

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433687

850 Montgomery County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

VIMLA JASHNANI
Plaintiff

V.

ALLOYSIUS OCHENI, et al.
Defendants

Case No. 475654V

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given this **23rd day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in the above captioned proceeding, described as **5115 Brentford Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20852** (the "Property"), and reported by Vimla Jashini, Plaintiff, shall be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **25th day of September, 2023**, provided that a copy of this NOTICE be published at least once a week in each of three (3) successive weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in Montgomery County, Maryland, before the **25th day of September, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the sale of the Property to be **$419,000.00**.

KAREN A. BUSHELL
CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433630

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

GREGORY THORNE,
Substitute Trustee, et al,
Plaintiffs,

V.

INTERNATIONAL REALTY PARTNERS, LLC,
Defendant(s)

Case No. CAEF21-14767

NOTICE

ORDERED this **30 day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S County, Maryland, that the sale of the property at **13014 Woodmore North Boulevard, Bowie, MD 20720** mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported Gregory Thome, et. al, Substitute Trustees, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **30 day of September, 2023** next, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in some newspaper published in said County once in each of three successive weeks before the **30 day of September, 2023** next. The report states the amount of sale to be **$775,018.41**.

Mahasin El Amin
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,
MARYLAND #793

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434596

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850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

844 QUINCE ORCHARD BLVD., UNIT #102
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated May 23, 2006, recorded in Liber 32457, Folio 375 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $134,320.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit No. 844-102 in Diamond Farms Condominium and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $7,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 352153-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434589

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

NAZNIN A. BHUIYAN AKA
NAZNIN A. HAQUE AKA
NAZNIN A. BHUYAN
7401 18th Avenue
Unit 112
Hyattsville, MD 20783
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-001503

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **29 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **7401 18th Avenue, Unit 112, Hyattsville, MD 20783**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIEDAND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **29 day of September, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **29 day of September, 2023**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$74,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Prince Georges's County,
Maryland #769

BWW#MD-359514

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434230

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S, MARYLAND

WILLIAM M. SAVAGE, et al.
Trustee(s)
Plaintiff(s)

vs.

NORMAN ARTIS
GLORIA D BASS SMITH A/K/A
GLORIA BASS A/K/A
GLORIA SMITH
Defendant(s)
Mortgagor(s)

CIVIL NO: C-16-CV-23-001531

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, this **23 day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for the County of Prince George's, Maryland and by authority thereof, that the sale made by William M. Savage, Gregory N. Britto, Trustees, of the Real Property designated as **4304 Torque Street, Capitol Heights, MD 20743**, and reported in the above entitled cause, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **25 day of September, 2023** next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in THE WASHINGTON POST, 1150 15th Street, Washington DC, MD published in said County of Prince George's once a week for three successive weeks before **25 day of September, 2023**. The report states the amount of the sale to be **$180,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk of The Circuit Court for
County of Prince George's #793

Trustees File#: 22-290935

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433620

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850 Montgomery County

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
8325 Shady Spring Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to ANDREW VALENTINE, Trustee(s), dated December 7, 2006, and recorded among the Land Records of **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 33800 , folio 030, MODIFIED JUNE 25, 2014, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 ON,

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 at 10:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and described as follows:
LOT NUMBERED TEN (10) ON BLOCK LETTERED "A", IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "PLAT ONE, MINERAL SPRINGS VILLAGE", AS PER PLAT THEREOF DULY RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND IN PLAT BOOK 96 AT PLAT 10630. THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS NO. 8325 SHADY SPRING DRIVE, GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND 20877.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $19,000.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 4.2% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (13-24978)

THOMAS W. HODGE, GENE JUNG,
ROBERT M. OLIVERI, CHRISTINE JOHNSON,
MELISSA ALCOCER, JEANA MCMURRAY,
BRENNAN FERGUSON, JESSICA ELLIOTT,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 L0011124

850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3330 N. LEISURE WORLD BLVD., UNIT #315
A/R/T/A UNIT #5-315
SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated February 23, 2009, recorded in Liber 36866, Folio 79 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $243,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:40 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit No. 315, as shown on the plat entitled "The Fairways at Leisure World" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $11,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 358681-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434593

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

LONA MAE MONROE
(DECEASED)
7722 Penbrook Place
Landover, MD 20785
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-000958

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **31 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale othe property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **7722 Penbrook Place, Landover, MD 20785**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **2 day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2 day of October, 2023**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$207,261.83**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Prince George's County,
Maryland #769

BWW#MD-361797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434558

851 Prince Georges County

IN TIIE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CARRIE M. WARD, et al.
6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
Substitute Trustees/Plaintiffs,

vs.

ALFREDA C. BOGGS
CHARLES REGINALD BOGGS
2517 Eliot Place
Temple Hills, MD 20748
Defendant(s).

Case No.C-16-CV-23-001723

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given this **31 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings and described as **2517 Eliot Place, Temple Hills, MD 20748**, made and reported by the Substitute Trustee, will be RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **2 day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this NOTICE be inserted in some daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2 day October, 2023**. The report states the purchase price at the Foreclosure sale to be **$295,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin
Clerk, Circuit Court for
Prince George's County,
Maryland #793

BWW#MD-362307

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434553

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Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

**3940 CHESTERWOOD DR. 73
SILVER SPRING, MD 20906**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 16, 2005, recorded in Liber 31359, Folio 473 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $233,600.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:36 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit No 3940, in a Condominium known as Montgomery Chase Condominium and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $24,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser’s default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser’s sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 350465-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434592

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

**10963 MIDDLEBORO DR.
DAMASCUS, MD 20872**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated March 28, 2019, recorded in Liber 57397, Folio 13 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $416,130.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:34 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $41,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser’s default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser’s sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 361591-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434591

850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

**10500 ROCKVILLE PIKE, UNIT #712
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 31, 2006, recorded in Liber 33060, Folio 215 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $175,920.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 3:32 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit Number 712 in Grosvenor Park II Condominium and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $17,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser’s default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser’s sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 362882-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434590

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

**7401 WESTLAKE TERRACE, UNIT #311
BETHESDA, MD 20817**

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated February 19, 2007 and recorded in Liber 034071, Folio 0082 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland modified by Loan Modification Agreement recorded on May 13, 2019, in the Land Records of Montgomery County at Liber No. 57563, Folio 339, with an original principal balance of $210,800.00, and an interest rate of 3.875%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 29, 2023 AT 3:52 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property being sold is a condominium unit and all common elements appurtenant thereto.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold “as is” and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $20,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser’s sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 426039)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434547

850 Montgomery County

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

**18816 FALLING STAR ROAD
GERMANTOWN, MD 20874**

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated July 21, 2005 and recorded in Liber 30803, Folio 508 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $599,700.00, and an interest rate of 4.000%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 29, 2023 AT 3:50 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold “as is” and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $46,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser’s sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 459978)
This property will be sold subject to the IRS right of redemption for a period of 120 days after the sale.

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
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Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434305

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

**11528 SOWARD DR.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20902**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Amir Rahbar dated April 13, 2020 and recorded in Liber 59719, folio 161 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 4:02 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #13-01247598.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $37,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser’s sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney’s fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney’s fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney’s fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees’ file number 22-003273-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434536

850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

**205 GREENSPRING LN.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20904**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 6, 2004, recorded in Liber 29518, Folio 34 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $522,400.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 4:02 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $46,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser’s default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser’s sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 361136-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433979

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

**3305 CAMDEN ST.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20902**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated February 9, 2005, recorded in Liber 29298, Folio 317 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $342,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 3:58 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $35,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser’s default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser’s sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 355316-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433976

850 Montgomery County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

**11507 SUTHERLAND HILL WAY
SILVER SPRING, MD 20904**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 28, 2006, recorded in Liber 32992, Folio 736 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $376,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 3:56 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $25,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser’s default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser’s sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 334413-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433975

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES’ SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

**618 EDEN PL.
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20877**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated June 22, 2018, recorded in Liber 56314, Folio 211 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $417,100.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 3:54 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an “as is” condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $50,000 in the form of certified check, cashier’s check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser’s sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser’s default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser’s sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 363211-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433974

850 Montgomery County

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

14005 HARTLEY HALL PLACE
DARNESTOWN, MD 20874

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated November 30, 2012 and recorded in Liber 45638, Folio 146 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $604,000.00, and an interest rate of 2.500%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 22, 2023 AT 3:44 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $50,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 446422)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

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Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433949

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
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Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

19948 BUHRSTONE DR.
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20886

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Allen D. Read, Jr. and Candice H. Read dated December 27, 2004 and recorded in Liber 29191, folio 158 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 4:12 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #09-01881058.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $14,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-000043-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433961

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

9800 CLYDESDALE ST.
POTOMAC, MD 20854

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated November 5, 2007, recorded in Liber 35069, Folio 162 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $417,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 2:35 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $37,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 329494-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433360

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

19452 SAINT JOHNSBURY LANE
GERMANTOWN, MD 20876

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated February 5, 2021 and recorded in Liber 62128, Folio 4 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $275,837.00, and an interest rate of 2.250%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County (Maryland Avenue entrance), 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, on

September 22, 2023 AT 3:42 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $26,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, including water and sewer facilities charges, ground rent, condo/HOA assessments, private utility, or front foot benefit payments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 460186)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

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Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433947

850 Montgomery County

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6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

7809 OLDCHESTER RD.
BETHESDA, MD 20817

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated January 18, 2013, recorded in Liber 46017, Folio 268 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $811,125.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 2:31 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $70,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 199551-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433357

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

2145 EDGEWARE ST.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20905

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated January 9, 2018, recorded in Liber 55637, Folio 246 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $325,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 2:27 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $29,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 348898-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433355

850 Montgomery County

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6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

14241 KINGS CROSSING BLVD., UNIT #205
BOYDS, MD 20841

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated June 11, 2007, recorded in Liber 34514, Folio 626 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $152,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 2:25 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit 205 in the Condominium known as "Kings Overlook Condominium I" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $12,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 349158-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433353

McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC
312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 800
Laurel, MD 20707
www.mwc-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

150 NORWOOD RD.
SILVER SPRING, MD 20905

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Afolabi Tinubu and Jenny Tinubu, dated June 14, 2006 and recorded in Liber 32665, folio 648 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof and at the request of the parties secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 2:57 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Montgomery County, Maryland and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
The property, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, encumbrances and agreements of record affecting the subject property, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine, at their sole discretion, for $62,000 at the time of sale. If the noteholder and/or servicer is the successful bidder, the deposit requirement is waived. Balance of the purchase price is to be paid within ten (10) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase price at the rate of 5% per annum from date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees, if the property is purchased by an entity other than the noteholder and/or servicer. If payment of the balance does not occur within ten (10) days of ratification, the deposit will be forfeited as liquidated damages. The purchaser agrees that the property may be resold pursuant to an order of court, waives personal service upon themselves and/or any principal or corporate designee of any documents filed regarding the failure to pay the purchase price within ten (10) days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail of said documents at the address provided by the purchaser in the Memorandum of Sale. The purchaser will not be entitled to any surplus or profits arising from the resale even if they are the result of improvements made by the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event settlement is delayed for any reason. Taxes, water rent, and all other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale, and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes (including agricultural transfer taxes, if applicable), and all settlement charges shall be borne by the purchaser. The sale is subject to a post sale audit of the loan, including but not limited to an analysis of whether the borrower entered into a loan modification agreement, filed bankruptcy, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable or marketable title or, the post sale audit concludes that the sale should not have occurred, or the sale is not ratified by the court for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit without interest even if the purchaser has made improvements to the property. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the property immediately after the sale. (Matter #2013-41859).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433335

850 Montgomery County

Offit Kurman, Attorneys at Law
7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1000W
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
202-900-8595

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE SINGLE-FAMILY PROPERTY

13304 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust from Wilmer A. Acosta Mejia and Ana C. Mondragon Alas to Flavia Favali, in trust (the "Trustee"), for the benefit of Flavia Favali (the "Beneficiary") dated July 7, 2019, and recorded on August 15, 2019 in Book 58021, Page 428, among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland. The Beneficiary having appointed Jung Kim, Esq. and Frances Wilburn, Esq., as Substitute Trustees by that certain Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustees dated March 20, 2023, recorded among the aforementioned Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland on April 7, 2023 in Book 66882, Page 354, securing that certain Promissory Note dated July 7, 2019 made by Wilmer A. Acosta Mejia & Ana C. Mondragon Alas (collectively referred to herein as the "Loan Documents"), default having occurred under the terms thereof and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees, will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850 on **September 15, 2023 at 2:45 P.M**. the property described in said Loan Documents and more particularly described below.
All that part of a tract, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Montgomery County, in the State of Maryland, known as and called "COVENANT OF PEACE", more particularly described as follows:
Beginning at a point in the center of Columbia Road and at the end of 105.15 feet on the first line of a conveyance from Lucy Shaw, et ux to Jesse Dustin and Bertha N. Dustin, his wife, now deceased, dated October 1, 1927 and recorded in Liber 444 at folio 179, and running with said first line and the center of Columbia Road N 30 degrees E 90 Feet; thence leaving said first line and the center of Columbia Road and running N 60 degrees W 20 feet to an iron pipe on the westerly side of said road; thence still on line N 60 degrees W 285 feet to an iron pipe at its intersection with the fourth line of said deed from Shaw to Dustin; thence with said fourth line S 30 degrees W 90 Feet to an iron pipe; thence leaving said fourth line and running S 60 degrees E 285 feet to an iron pipe on the westerly side of Columbia Road; thence still on line S 60 degrees E 20 feet to the center of Columbia Road and the point of beginning, containing 0.63 acres of land.
A Parcel of land shown as 0.63 acres, assessed as 23,958 square feet and shown on Tax Map KR31, Parcel P089. Saving and Excepting 3,627 square feet to Montgomery County in Deed recorded in Liber 7927 at folio 324 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland. Lying in the Colesville Election District No. 5, and recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
Property Address: 13304 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904
Tax ID: 05- 00279007
TERMS OF SALE: The Property will be sold in "AS IS, WHERE IS" condition, without any warranty or representation whatsoever, express or implied, without recourse. Neither the Substitute Trustees, the noteholder secured by the Loan Documents, the Auctioneer, nor any of their respective agents, successors or assigns (collectively, the "Selling Parties") make any representations or warranties, express or implied, with respect to the Property, or any tenancies or parties in possession, including without limitation, the description, use, size, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, habitability, subdivision, zoning, environmental condition, compliance with building codes or other laws (such as Americans with Disabilities Act), ordinances or regulations, fitness for a particular purpose, or merchantability of all or any part of the Property. The purchaser waives and releases the Selling Parties from any and all claims the purchaser and/or the purchaser's successors and assigns may now have or may have in the future relating to the condition of the Property, including but not limited to the environmental condition thereof. The purchaser shall assume all risk of loss or damage to the Property after the time of the foreclosure sale. The Property will be sold subject to all tenancies, parties in possession, deed(s) of trust, conditions, regulations, orders, ordinances and laws, as well as restrictions, prior judgments, liens, outstanding taxes and other charges, utility charges, matters, and any agreements or documents of record affecting the same, if any, which the successful bidder(s), in addition to paying the bid price, will be required to pay and/or otherwise satisfy. The Property will be sold subject to any deed(s) of trust, building or housing violations, easements, agreements, restrictions, terms, rights of way, filed and unfiled mechanics' and materialmen's liens, covenants, conditions, rights of redemption, and all other encumbrances having priority over the Loan Documents, if any, lawfully affecting the Property whether or not of record, including but not limited to environmental conditions (including without limitation possible wetlands, riparian rights, critical or protected areas, and the presence of protected or endangered species) and all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations lawfully affecting the Property. All interested bidders are encouraged to contact the appropriate governmental authorities prior to the sale date regarding the permitted uses of the Property and the requirements, if any, for construction, completion and/or development.
The Substitute Trustees(s) shall be entitled to remove the Property from sale prior to bidding, and reject any and all bids. A deposit of $10,000.00 in the form of certified check or cashier's check shall be paid to the Substitute Trustees at the time and place of sale. Whenever the purchaser is also the noteholder secured by the Loan Documents, payment of the required deposit(s) and the purchase price is made by crediting the amount thereof to the indebtedness. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash or certified check at settlement, which shall be no later than fifteen (15) days after final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, unless said period is extended by the Substitute Trustees, their successors or assigns, for good cause shown, determined in Substitute Trustees sole and absolute discretion, time otherwise being of the essence; otherwise, in addition to other remedies available to the Substitute Trustees, whether at law or in equity, the Substitute Trustees may, at their election, declare the deposit immediately forfeited and resell the Property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the Property. Interest at the rate equal to the rate at which interest is currently accruing on the Promissory Note, shall be paid on the unpaid purchase price from the date of sale to the date of closing. All outstanding real property taxes, and water rent on an annual basis, including any sanitary and/or county or metropolitan district charges and any other municipal charges, utility charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale shall be assumed and paid by purchaser. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recordation taxes, (including any agricultural transfer tax), recording fees, document preparation, financing related charges and fees, title insurance and any and all other costs or charges of settlement shall be borne solely by the purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining possession from anyone in possession of the Property and no warranty is made regarding the occupancy status of the Property. Conveyance of the Property shall be by Substitute Trustees' Deed, without any covenant or warranty, express or implied, unless otherwise required by statute, court rule or the Loan Documents. In the event the Substitute Trustees are unable for any reason to convey title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be to request and to receive a return of the deposit. Upon a return of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Selling Parties.
This advertisement, as amended or supplemented by any oral announcements during the conduct of the sale, constitutes the Substitute Trustees' entire terms upon which such premises shall be offered for sale.
All information herein contained is believed to be accurate but is not guaranteed.

Jung Kim, Esquire and Frances Wilburn, Esquire
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433337

Recipe finder

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The Washington Post

S0115 2x2

850 Montgomery County

McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC
312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 800
Laurel, MD 20707
www.mwc-law.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

9603 MCWHORTER FARM CT. DAMASCUS, MD 20872

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Frank Owusu and Naa Afi Owusu, dated March 14, 2007 and recorded in Liber 34071, folio 579 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof and at the request of the parties secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 2:55 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Montgomery County, Maryland and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.
The property, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, encumbrances and agreements of record affecting the subject property, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The property is subject to a front foot benefit.
Terms of Sale: A deposit in the form of cashier's or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine, at their sole discretion, for $99,000 at the time of sale. If the noteholder and/or servicer is the successful bidder, the deposit requirement is waived. Balance of the purchase price is to be paid within ten (10) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase price at the rate of 5% per annum from date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees, if the property is purchased by an entity other than the noteholder and/or servicer. If payment of the balance does not occur within ten (10) days of ratification, the deposit will be forfeited as liquidated damages. The purchaser agrees that the property may be resold pursuant to an order of court, waives personal service upon themselves and/or any principal or corporate designee of any documents filed regarding the failure to pay the purchase price within ten (10) days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail of said documents at the address provided by the purchaser in the Memorandum of Sale. The purchaser will not be entitled to any surplus or profits arising from the resale even if they are the result of improvements made by the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event settlement is delayed for any reason. Taxes, water rent, and all other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale, and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes (including agricultural transfer taxes, if applicable), and all settlement charges shall be borne by the purchaser. The sale is subject to a post sale audit of the loan, including but not limited to an analysis of whether the borrower entered into a loan modification agreement, filed bankruptcy, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. The Substitute Trustees will convey either insurable or marketable title. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable or marketable title or, the post sale audit concludes that the sale should not have occurred, or the sale is not ratified by the court for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit without interest even if the purchaser has made improvements to the property. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the property immediately after the sale. (Matter #23-600025).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433334

851 Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
4805 WHITFIELD CHAPEL ROAD LANHAM, MD 20706

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated July 25, 2007, and recorded in Liber 28754, folio 83, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $405,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 20-2218063

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $25,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.99% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-054434)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012432215

851 Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
6846 NASHVILLE RD LANHAM, MD 20706

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated May 14, 2007, and recorded in Liber 28016, folio 048, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $385,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 21-2361012

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $32,000.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 8.740% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-077867)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012432214

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

KNOWN AS

9203 Loughran Road Fort Washington, MD 20744

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to PRLAP, INC. , Trustee(s), dated December 28, 2007, and recorded among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 29188, folio 221, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and described as follows:
BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NUMBERED FOUR (4) IN BLOCK LETTERED "J" IN A SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "SECTION 3, SOUTH FORT FOOTE VILLAGE" AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK WWW 47 AT PLAT 84 AND AS PER PLAT OF CORRECTION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK WWW 69 AT PLAT 43 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.
TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 2.741% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.
The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (65506)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012432417

851 Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112
TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
5600 RUGGED LANE
CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD 20743

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated February 5, 2021, and recorded in Liber 44930, folio 477, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $495,853.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 18-3824406

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $47,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 2.125% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (23-094370)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN,
THOMAS GARTNER, Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 L0011331

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRGINIA BEACH VA 23452
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
7806 Drum Point Lane
Clinton, MD 20735

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to THOMAS DORE OF COVAHEY, BOOZER, DEVAN AND DORE, Trustee(s), dated April 12, 2013, and recorded among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 36063, folio 539, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED 44, IN BLOCK B, IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "PLAT 4, LOTS 43 THROUGH 61, BLOCK B AND LOTS 1 THROUGH 7, BLOCK C AND PARCEL L AND PARCEL J, WILLOW CREEK", IN THE 9TH ELECTION DISTRICT, AS PER PLAT THEREOF DULY RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK VJ 175 AT PLAT NO. 82, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 3.75% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sol remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Trustee's File No. (80150)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 L0011350

851 Prince Georges County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
13003 BRICE CT UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20774

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated November 17, 2006, and recorded in Liber 29493, folio 659, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $399,900.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 07-3579513

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $23,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.75% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-084736)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 L0011280

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112
TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
7107 FRESNO ST
CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD 20743

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated November 26, 2013, and recorded in Liber 35479, folio 217, of the land records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $147,872.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 18-2111649

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $15,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 4.125% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (22-065747)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
BRYSON STEPHEN, THOMAS GARTNER,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 5,12,19 2023 L0011309

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The Washington Post
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855 Charles County

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP
201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
3004 EIDER COURT Waldorf, MD 20601

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from MARK CONNER AND KAY CONNER, dated December 11, 2006 and recorded in book 6145 , page 630 among the Land Records of **CHARLES COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-08-CV-23-000115; Tax ID No. 06-237398) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction CHARLES COUNTY courthouse located at 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 .

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 at 12:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 24,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for CHARLES COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 55978.0034)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON,
NICOLE LIPINKSI,
MARC MEDEL,
Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012433001

856 Frederick County

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

3728 SPRIGG ST. N. FREDERICK, MD 21704

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 31, 2005, recorded in Liber 5694, Folio 366 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $400,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 12:43 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $39,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 361619-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012434587

856 Frederick County

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
1099 WINTERSON ROAD, SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090
www.cgd-law.com/sales

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

202 BRAEBURN DRIVE
WALKERSVILLE, MD 21793

By authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated October 7, 2005 and recorded in Liber 5639, Folio 217 among the Land Records of Frederick County, Maryland, with an original principal balance of $359,650.00, and an interest rate of 4.000%, default having occurred thereunder, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the Courthouse door for the Circuit Court for Frederick County, 100 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701, on

September 22, 2023 AT 12:50 PM

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and the improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. The property is improved by a dwelling.

Terms of Sale: The property will be sold "as is" and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements and agreements of record affecting same, if any and with no warranty of any kind. A deposit of $28,000.00 by certified funds only (no cash will be accepted) is required at the time of auction. Balance of the purchase price to be paid within 10 days of ratification of sale by the Court. The purchaser, other than the holder of the Note, its assigns, or designees, shall pay interest on the unpaid purchase money at the note rate from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest or taxes. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, or front foot benefit payments, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Real estate taxes and all other public charges, or assessments, ground rent, or condo/HOA assessments, not otherwise divested by ratification of the sale, to be adjusted as of the date of auction, unless the purchaser is the foreclosing lender or its designee. Cost of all transfer and recordation taxes and settlement expenses, and all other costs incident to settlement, shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement within ten (10) days of ratification of the sale, or otherwise fails to comply with the terms of the sale, the Substitute Trustees may declare the entire deposit forfeited and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for the Substitute Trustees, if the Substitute Trustees have filed a motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed in connection with such a motion on themself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper by regular mail directed to the address provided by said bidder at the time of foreclosure auction. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey insurable title, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be the return of the deposit without interest. The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. (CGD File #: 460123)

Richard E. Solomon, et al., Sub. Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433944

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

1488 HEATHER RIDGE CT.
FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Derrick J. Smith dated March 21, 2022 and recorded in Liber 15825, folio 500 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 AT 12:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #02-075911.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

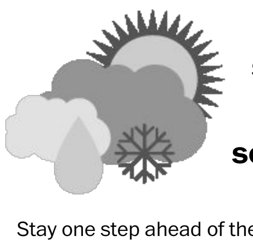
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $21,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.

If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-002770-MD-F-2.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433960



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(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

2607 WARREN WAY, UNIT #43
FREDERICK, MD 21701

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated February 28, 2019, recorded in Liber 12866, Folio 254 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $213,069.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 11:05 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and described as Unit numbered 4-3 in a condominium known as "Condominium Plat Phase 4, Building 4, The Braemar Condominium being part of Section 2, Plat 1 Tuscarora Knolls, Plat Book 45, Page 93" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $20,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 362918-1)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433351

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

10501A OLD ANNAPOLIS RD.
FREDERICK, MD 21701

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 22, 2016, recorded in Liber 11660, Folio 70 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $432,030.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 11:09 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $44,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 323803-15)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433350

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

7023 EDGEMONT RD.
FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 14, 2001, recorded in Liber 3036, Folio 737 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $126,400.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 11:07 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $7,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 193158-2)

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433348

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

7112 PROCLAMATION PL., UNIT #29G
FREDERICK, MD 21703

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Alexandria B. Rodas dated March 2, 2021 and recorded in Liber 14668, folio 390 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 11:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #01-597876.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The property will be sold subject to a deferred water and sewer charge (Front Foot Benefit).

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $29,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.

If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 23-000557-MD-F-2.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433340

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
5034 Wise Rd
Cascade, MD 21719

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to TRANSCONTINENTAL, Trustee(s), dated March 23, 2004, and recorded among the Land Records of **FREDERICK COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 4512, folio 0493, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 100 W. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK, MD 21701 ON,

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 at 9:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

ALL THAT PARCEL OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND ALL RIGHTS, WAYS, EASEMENTS, PRIVILEGES, AND APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING OR IN ANYWISE APPERTAINING, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN HAUVERS ELECTION DISTRICT, FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, BEGINNING FOR THE SAME AT AN IRON PIN AND POST, THE SAME BEING THE PLACE OF BEGINNING OF A DEED FROM THE GRANTORS TO THE GRANTEES HEREIN, DATED DECEMBER 27, 1948, AND RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FREDERICK COUNTY IN LIBER NO. 477 FOLIO 465, AND RUNNING THENCE WITH OTHER LANDS OF THE SAID GRANTEES SOUTH 33 DEGREES 49 MINUTES WEST 107 FEET TO AN IRON SPIKE DRIVEN IN THE CENTER OF AN UNIMPROVED ROAD, THENCE WITH THE CENTER LINE THEREOF NORTH 59 DEGREES 41 MINUTES WEST 443 FEET TO A SPIKE DRIVEN IN THE CENTER OF SAID ROAD, THENCE NORTH 32 DEGREES 36 MINUTES EAST 343.1 FEET TO AN IRON PIN AT A POST, THENCE WITH THE PROPERTY NOW OR FORMERLY BELONGING TO HARVEY SMITH SOUTH 60 DEGREES 37 MINUTES EAST 451 FEET TO AN IRON PIN, SAID POINT MARKING THE END OF THE FIRST LINE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED DEED, THENCE REVERSING SAID LINE SOUTH 33 DEGREES 49 MINUTES WEST 244 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 3.5 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, BEING PART OF PARCEL OF 1 OF THE REAL ESTATE WHICH WAS CONVEYED UNTO THE GRANTORS HEREIN BY IVAN BROWN AND ALSO BROWN, HIS WIFE, BY DEED DATED MARCH 11, 1926, AND RECORDED IN LIBER NO. 356, FOLIO 384, OF THE AFORESAID LAND RECORDS.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $13,500.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 4.375% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (21-09215)

JOHN ANSELL, JEREMY B. WILKINS,
ROBERT A. OLIVERI, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
PAUL HEINMULLER, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
KRISTOPHER HAWKINS,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 L0011218

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Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
16014 Kelbaugh Rd
Thurmont, MD 21788

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to WILLIAM J. PETRINA, Trustee(s), dated August 5, 2017, and recorded among the Land Records of **FREDERICK COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 11988 , folio 0116 , the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 100 W. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK, MD 21701 ON,

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 at 9:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

ALL THAT PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN EMMITSBURG ELECTION DISTRICT, FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, BEGINNING FOR THE SAME AT A POINT AT THE END OF 153 FEET ON THE 3RD OR NORTH 88 DEGREES EAST 225 FEET LINE SET FORTH IN A DEED FROM W LESTER MILLER, ET UX, TO IRVIN W. MILLER, ET UX, DATED JULY 9, 1949, AND RECORDED IN LIBER NUMBER 479, FOLIO 478, ONE OF THE LAND RECORDS OF THE COUNTY AFORESAID, AND RUNNING WITH THE SAID THIRD LINE A DISTANCE OF 72 FEET TO THE CORNER, AND THENCE BY AND WITH THE BOUNDARY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE SAID IRVIN W. MILLER, ET UX, NORTH 28 AND A HALF DEGREES WEST 100 FEET TO A STAKE, THENCE BY AND WITH A LINE OF DIVISION HERETOFORE MADE, RUNNING IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION AND PARALLEL TO THE FIRST LINE HEREOF A DISTANCE OF 72 FEET TO A STAKE, THENCE BY A LINE OF DIVISION HERETOFORE MADE RUNNING IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION AND PARALLEL TO THE 2ND LINE HEREOF A DISTANCE OF 100 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. TAX: ID: 05-175437.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $7,500.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 5.24 % on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (20-03922)

JOHN ANSELL, JEREMY B. WILKINS,
ROBERT A. OLIVERI, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
PAUL HEINMULLER, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
KRISTOPHER HAWKINS,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
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857 **Howard County**

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Wilmington NC, 28403

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
10546 East Wind Way
Columbia, MD 21044

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to FIELDSTONE MORTGAGE COMPANY, Trustee(s), dated February 14, 2003, and recorded among the Land Records of **HOWARD COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 06990 , folio 001 , the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE HOWARD COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 9250 JUDICIAL WAY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043 ON,

SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 at 12:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD and described as follows:
BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT NUMBER C-FIFTEEN (C-15) AND CARPORT LOT NUMBER CP-FIFTEEN (CP-15), AS SHOWN ON A PLAT ENTITLED "COLUMBIA, VILLAGE OF HICKORY RIDGE, SECTION ONE (1), AREA SIX (6), LOTS C-ONE (C-1) TO C-THIRTY NINE (C39), A RESUBDIVISION OF A PORTION OF PARCEL LETTERED "C", SHEET ONE OF ONE (1 OF 1)", WHICH PLAT IS RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF HOWARD COUNTY IN PLAT 4254. THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS 10546 EAST WIND WAY, COLUMBIA, MD 21044

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $17,000.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 4% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (18-06618)

JOHN ANSELL, JEREMY B. WILKINS,
ROBERT A. OLIVERI, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
PAUL HEINMULLER, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
KRISTOPHER HAWKINS,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 12,19,26 2023 0012433330

852 **Anne Arundel County**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

John Ansell, et al.
Substitute Trustees

Versus

Estate of Robert Anthony Jones, et al.
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-22-002075

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this Monday, August 21, 2023 that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Brennan Baxter Ferguson, Esq., Substitute Trustee BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 20th day of September 2023 next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 20th day of September 2023 next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **1152 LATROBE DRIVE, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21409** to be **$356,302.57**.

Scott A. Poyer
CIRCUIT COURT FOR
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, M.D.

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433391

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Eric D. Vandelinde
Substitute Trustee

Versus

Estate of Alice James
Defendant

No. C-02-CV-21-001793

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this Monday, August 21, 2023 that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Nicole Lipinski, Substitute Trustee
BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 20th day of September 2023 next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 20th day of September 2023 next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **789 ANNAPOLIS NECK ROAD, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403** to be **$368,207.22**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court For
Anne Arundel County, M.D.

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433392

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Keith Yacko, et al.
Substitute Trustees

Versus

Howard D. Caulfield, Sr., et al.
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-23-000201

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, August 28, 2023** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Jennifer Deardorff, Esq., Substitute Trustee BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **27th day of September 2023** next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **27th day of September 2023 next**. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **1605 KIMBER ROAD, GLEN BURNIE, MD 21060** to be **$198,000.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundle County, MD

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434217

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Keith Yacko, et al.
substitute Trustees

Versus

Keith A. Begis, et al.
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-23-000379

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, August 28, 2023** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Jennifer Deardorff, BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **27th day of September 2023** next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **27th day of September 2023** next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **95 CREEK VIEW COURT, PASADENA, MD 21122** to be **$273,000.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433957

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Keith Yacko, et al.
Substitute Trustees

Versus

Anita A. Young, et al.
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-23-000361

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this **Monday, August 28, 2023** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by Jennifer Deardorff, BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **27TH day of September 2023** next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **27TH day of September 2023** next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **1415 LARCH ROAD, SEVERN, MD 21144** to be **$345,732.56**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arundel County, MD.

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012433953

855 **Charles County**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane Rosenberg, et al.
4340 East west Highway,
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustees
Plaintiff(s)

V.

Estate of
Mary Catherine Farmer
Estate of Lawson E Makle
Estate of Mary V. Makle
3720 Mount Pleasant Road
Waldorf, MD 20601

Case No. C-08-CV-23-000310

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this **24 day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for Charles County, Maryland, that the sale of **3730 Mount Pleasant Road, Waldorf, MD 20601**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **26 day of September, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **25 day of September, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$161,000.00**.

Lisa E. Yates
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Charles County, Maryland

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434561

857 **Howard County**

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

8300 WADES WAY
JESSUP, MD 20794

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Lorie Lonon dated January 25, 2021 and recorded in Liber 20274, folio 133 among the Land Records of Howard County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Howard County, at the Court House Door, 9250 Judicial Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043, on

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 AT 9:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Howard County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #06-543537.
The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $34,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Howard County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Sub. Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale.
If the Sub. Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited, to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without reselling the property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Trustees' file number 22-003102-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 0012433339

855 **Charles County**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane S. Rosenberg
4340 East West Highway,
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustee
Plaintiff(s)

v.

Janet Elizabeth Custis
1142 Hamlin Road
Waldorf, MD 20602
Defendant(s)

Case No. C-08-CV-23-000293

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this **29th day of August, 2023** by the Circuit Court for Charles County, Maryland, that the sale of **1142 Hamlin Road, Waldorf, MD 20602**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **18th day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in The Washington Post a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **19th, day of October, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$228,000.00**.

Lisa E. Yates
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Charles County, Maryland

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434287

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Richard E. Solomon
Richard J. Rogers
Michael McKeefery
Christianna Kersey
Kevin Hildebeidel
1099 Winterson Road,
Suite 301
Linthicum Height, MD 21090
Substitute Trustees
Plaintiffs

V.

Christine G. Reese a/k/a
Christine Lynn Gordon

AND

Francis M. Reese

704 Clarks Run Road
La Plata, MD 20646
Defendants

Case No. C-08-CV-22-000394

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this **31 day of August, 2023**, by the Circuit Court for Charles County, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **3 day of October, 2023**, provided a copy of this notice be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Charles County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **2 day of October, 2023**. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$310,581.12**. The property sold herein is known as **704 Clarks Run Road, La Plata, MD 20646**.

Lisa E. Yates
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Charles County, Maryland

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434582

856 **Frederick County**

CIRCUIT COURT FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND
100 West Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701
Clerk of the Court: 301-600-1976
Assignment Office:
301-600-2015

Case Number:
C-10-CV-23-000087
Other Reference Numbers:

RICHARD SOLOMON, ESQUIRE

VS.

WAYNE DOWNING

Date: 8/29/2023

NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court for Frederick County this **29th day of August 2023**, that the sale made and recorded by Richard Solomon, Et Al for the sale of the property described in these proceedings **130 Stonegate Drive, Frederick, MD 21702** be ratified and confirmed thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice, unless cause to the contrary be shown, provided a copy of this Notice be inserted in some Newspaper published in this County, once in each of three (3) successive weeks. The report states the amount of the sale to be **$236,000.00**.

Sep 5,12,19 2023 0012434221

872 **Fairfax County**

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF
5947 Founders Hill Dr.
Unit 203,
Alexandria, VA 22310

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $235,000.00 dated June 9, 2018 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for **Fairfax County** on June 11, 2018 as Instrument Number: 2018033029.001, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, 4110 Chain Bridge Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030 on **October 11, 2023 at 12:45 PM** the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: The land hereinafter referred to is situated in the City of Alexandria, County of Fairfax, State of VA, and is described as follows: Unit 5947-203, Founders Hill Drive, Building 10, Phase 11, Founders Walk Condominium, in accordance with the Declaration of Condominium and Exhibits attached thereto recorded in Deed Book 9598 at Page 581 and rerecorded in Deed Book 9622 at Page 1120, and by First Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium recorded in Deed Book 9631 at Page 1972, and Second Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium, recorded in Deed Book 9648 at Page 1774, and Third Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium, recorded in Deed Book 9705 at Page 1081, and Fourth Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium recorded in Deed Book 9751 at Page 1163, and Fifth Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium, recorded in Deed Book 9786 at Page 1418, and Sixth Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium recorded in Deed Book 9809 at Page 1892, and Seventh Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium recorded in Deed Book 9847 at Page 1105, and by Eighth Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium, recorded in Deed Book 9946 at Page 1342, and by Ninth Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium, recorded in Deed Book 9962 at Page 1477, and by Tenth Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium recorded in Deed Book 10122 at Page 25, and by Eleventh Amendment to Declaration Founders Walk Condominium recorded as Instrument No. 98-099636, any other amendments thereto, among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia. Together with an undivided interest in the common elements as described in the declaration. Tax ID: 0814 42470203.

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of $11,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 23-006101)
Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orlans PC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlans.com The Vendor auction.com will be used in conjunction with this sale.Potential Bidders: For sale information, please visit www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832.

Sep 5,12 2023 L0011204

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857 **Howard County**

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP
201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
9932 Hughes Avenue
Laurel, MD 20723

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from RUSSELL BRUCE CONOVER, dated May 30, 2017 and recorded in book 17650 , page 1 among the Land Records of **HOWARD COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-13-CV-23-000296; Tax ID No. 06-409700) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction HOWARD COUNTY courthouse located at 9250 JUDICIAL WAY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 16,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for HOWARD COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 58342.0337)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON,
NICOLE LIPINKSI,
Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Aug 29,Sep 5,12 2023 L0011257

877 **Spotsylvania County**

Trustee's Sale
13402 Hilliard Court,
Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553
(Parcel ID: 9-2-33)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated July 30, 2021, in the original principal amount of $545,606.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the **County of Spotsylvania**, Virginia in Instrument No. 210023454, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on **October 18, 2023, at 1:00 pm**, in front of the building housing the Spotsylvania County Circuit Court, 9107 Judicial Center Lane, at the Circuit Court entrance, Spotsylvania, VA 22553, the property containing 5.359 ac., +/- (erroneously shown as 5359 acres in deed recorded at Inst. No. 180008638), and being Lot #33 of Battlefield Estates as shown on plat recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Plat Book 3, Page 220. Together with the non-exclusive right to use, and subject to the rights of others, the private right of way abutting the east side of Lot 33 for Ingress and Egress from and to Route 640. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of $54,500.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than $9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 calendar days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review on the Foreclosure Sales page of www.glasserlaw.com [glasserlaw.com], outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector, Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. on behalf of Atlantic Trustee Services, L.L.C., and/or REO Solutions, LLC, and/or Auction.com-VA, LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 231746-02, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Sep 12,19 2023 0012433022

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857 **Howard County**

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP
201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
5233 Hermit Path
Columbia, MD 21044

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from JOHN WILLIAM BROOKS JR, dated March 11, 2009 and recorded in book 11640 , page 512 among the Land Records of **HOWARD COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-13-CV-19-000896; Tax ID No. 15-044942) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction HOWARD COUNTY courthouse located at 9250 JUDICIAL WAY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043 .

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM

Said property is subject to a IRS Right of Redemption.

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

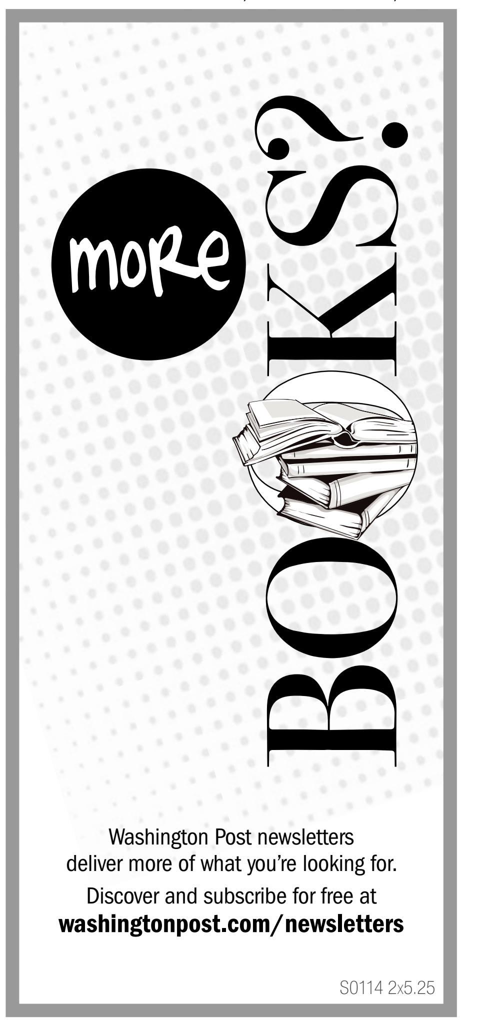
The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

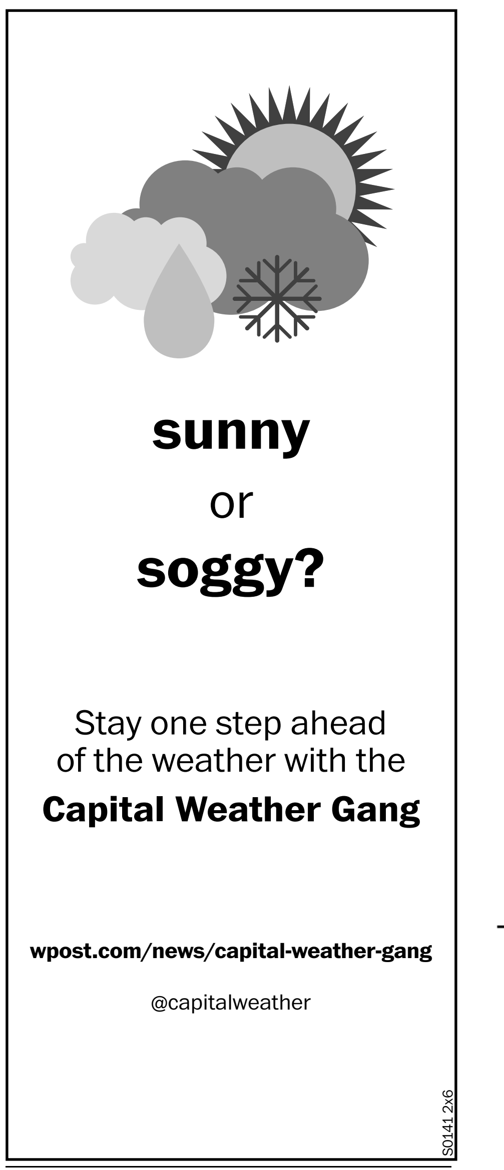
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 48,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for HOWARD COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 58342.0113)

SYDNEY E. ROBERSON,
NICOLE LIPINSKI,
MARC MEDEL,
Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
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HEALTH&SCIENCE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 · SECTION E   EZ EE

MEDICAL MYSTERIES



‘Going to Iceland saved my life’

Doctors were stumped by his confusing symptoms. A vacation led to a hospital stay — and an answer.

BY SANDRA G. BOODMAN

Randolph H. Pherson is accustomed to uncertainty when it comes to his health. It took the former CIA analyst five years, appointments with a dozen doctors and a trip to an emergency room before he was diagnosed with coronary artery disease so severe he underwent quadruple bypass surgery hours later. ¶ Galvanized by that experience, Pherson sought to apply intelligence-gathering skills to medical care and in 2020 published a book entitled “How to Get the Right Diagnosis: 16 Tips for Navigating the Medical System.” ¶ In his own life, however, Pherson’s efforts have met with mixed success. Two weeks after his 2014 heart operation Pherson developed the first of a baffling constellation of symptoms that included painful skin rashes, spiking fevers and abnormal blood counts. He spent the next seven years consulting multiple specialists who ruled out 50 diseases but were unable to make a diagnosis. ¶ It wasn’t until September 2021 when Pherson became critically ill and wound up in a Reykjavik hospital while on vacation that a serendipitous convergence of events led to the identity of the unusual malady that had plagued him for years. Pherson suspects he might still be searching for answers had he not been under the care of a team whose comprehensive work-up, collaborative approach and connection to an expert at the National Institutes of Health led to a definitive diagnosis in February 2022.

SEE MEDICAL MYSTERY ON E4

ILLUSTRATION BY BIANCA BAGNARELLI FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Wearing masks? Eating out? How covid experts live now.

BY MARLENE CIMONS

In the past year, many Americans have stopped thinking about covid-19, ditched their masks, skipped the latest coronavirus boosters and returned to living more normal lives. While cases of covid-related severe illness and hospitalization remain low, infection counts are spiking again, new variants are emerging, and flu and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) loom as winter approaches.

There’s a lot of news about the coronavirus and other respiratory viruses these days, some of it confusing. A new coronavirus variant — BA.2.86 — is attracting the attention of infectious-disease specialists. But on the good news front, a key federal panel meets Tuesday to discuss the latest coronavirus booster, which should target the XBB variants of the virus; officials expect the booster to become available by the end of the month. A new flu shot and RSV vaccines are already out.

Vaccination and awareness of virus transmission nationally and locally are important elements of the U.S. disease prevention “tool kit,” said Demetre Daskalakis, the acting director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. “Pay attention to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] website . . . pay close tabs to what’s happening in the local health department [and] keep an eye on what they’re saying,” he advised. Also “if you do get the infection, whether it’s covid or flu, there are some treatments that you might qualify for.”

The Washington Post has interviewed numerous medical experts several times over the past three years to learn what precautions they were taking as the coronavirus circulated. Here’s what they have to say today. Responses have been edited for space and clarity.

Q: What worries you as we head into the fall and winter months?

William Schaffner, professor of preventive medicine in health policy and professor of medicine in the division of

SEE COVID ON E6



TIMM SCHAMBERGER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

NUCLEAR FALLOUT

Scientists have discovered why some wild boars in Germany test high for radioactivity. E2

BALANCE

Tips for walking comfortably — and safely — on hikes and uneven ground. E3

ASK A DOCTOR

What’s the injury risk from pickleball? And what can you do to avoid getting hurt? E5

PERSPECTIVE

My grandfather’s childhood polio finally caught up with him

BY PRIA ANAND

The first known victim of polio lived and died in the 14th century B.C., during Egypt’s 18th dynasty. He is immortalized on a carved limestone slab, the Stele of Roma the Doorkeeper.

In the carving, Roma leans against a tall staff, holding a goblet in his left hand. His left leg is muscular, the foot planted flat against the earth. By contrast, his right leg seems shrunken. His right knee is bent, and the muscles of his calf have wasted away. The toes of his right foot rest lightly on the ground, as if he is a ballerina posing en pointe.

Thousands of years after Roma died, decades after the Americas were declared “polio-free,” a 20-year-old man in Rockland County, N.Y., arrived at a hospital in summer 2022 unable to walk. His legs were limp and weak, his abdomen was painfully distended, and his neck was

SEE POLIO ON E6

Emerging science explores human role in extreme weather

BY MEERI KIM

An emerging field of climate science that analyzes extreme weather events is behind the assertion that the unprecedented heat waves sweeping the globe are a result of human-induced climate change.

Extreme event attribution examines the human fingerprint on weather-related disasters by comparing our current world — and its growing amount of weather anomalies — to an idealized one, where the human influence on climate never happened.

To do that, researchers run computer programs known as climate models that simulate weather patterns over time, not unlike those used for a local seven-day forecast. But they re-create the weather over decades or centuries, rather than hours or days.

“The really cool thing about climate models is that you have a world in a computer, and you can do experiments on

SEE WEATHER ON E2

Extreme weather, human causes

WEATHER FROM E1

it," said Andrew Pershing, vice president of science at the research nonprofit Climate Central. "And you can literally do the experiment of what would this world look like if global warming never happened."

Connecting a changing climate to human activity dates back to the work of two Nobel Prize winners for physics, Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann, who pioneered the development of climate models starting in the 1960s. Climate models help us understand how the climate has changed in the past and may change in the future. They solve mathematical equations that describe how energy and matter interact in different parts of the ocean, atmosphere and land.

Attribution scientists use climate models to replay the past few hundred years on Earth, removing all greenhouse gas emissions made by humans. By contrasting this fictional world with our own, they can see whether extreme events such as floods, droughts or cold spells look any different and what effect those emissions have had on our weather.

For instance, an attribution study in July found that the heat waves in North America and Europe would have been "virtually impossible" in a world without climate change.

If humans had not warmed the planet by burning fossil fuels, these heat waves would still be considered rare. But in reality, we can expect them to come around every 15 years in North America and every 10 years in Europe, according to attribution scientists.

They also warn that, if humans continue to produce emissions at today's rate, it will speed up to every two to five years starting in the mid-2030s.

"That is really important information for water resource managers, urban planners and policymakers regarding climate adaptation and resilience," said Kevin A. Reed, professor of marine and atmospheric sciences at Stony Brook University.



TOMOHIRO OHSUMI/GETTY IMAGES

At dusk, men walk in front of smoke-belching chimneys at factories in Kamisu, Japan, in 2019.

Until recently, scientists largely avoided connecting any individual event with climate change, with the idea that weather is by its very nature unpredictable and has no single cause. But in 2004, what is considered the first extreme event study determined that climate change "at least doubled the risk" of the previous year's heat wave in Europe that killed over 70,000 people.

Almost any weather event might occur by chance, but the authors argued that climate models could be used to tease out the role that humanity played in making such intense heat more likely. They simulated the climate with and without human emissions thousands of times, counting how many times a heat wave as extreme as the 2003 one popped up. While the event was rare in both cases, it occurred twice as often in the world with human emissions.

Since that pivotal first study, scientists have investigated more than 500 weather-related disasters across the globe, with 71 percent of them found to be made more likely or more severe based on human-caused climate change.

With the help of faster computers and more precise climate models, researchers can now perform these analyses within days instead of months.

The World Weather Attribution (WWA) initiative, formed in 2015 by an international team of climate scientists, has carried out more than 50 attribution studies, most in the aftermath of events or while they are still happening. The WWA was responsible for the analysis of July's extreme heat around the world, which took only five days to compile.

Many researchers see extreme event attribution as a communication tool that has the power to connect climate change with people's everyday experiences. "Doing attribution in real time is what will be the most useful for people to get informed, while there is focus on an extreme event," said WWA team member Robert Vautard, director of the Institut Pierre-Simon Laplace.

The WWA has pointed to global warming as the main driver for droughts in East Africa since 2020, a 2022 heat wave in South America and 2022 flooding in Pakistan.

But in the case of a 2019 drought in Madagascar, WWA found that reduced rainfall was mostly due to natural climate variation, despite the United Nations claiming otherwise.

Climate Central has adapted the methods developed by WWA to create the Climate Shift Index (CSI), a metric that reveals how much daily weather conditions have been altered by climate change. Pershing and his colleagues average results from 22 climate models, calculating the likelihood of local, daily temperatures with and without historical greenhouse gas emissions.

Their recent analysis that climate change made July hotter for more than 6.5 billion people, or 81 percent of Earth's population, had looked at data for 4,700 cities and 200 countries. "Virtually no place on Earth escaped the influence of climate change" in July, Pershing said.

Reed's laboratory specializes in event attribution studies that look specifically at the effect on hurricanes. For each study, he runs 40 simulations over the past 150 years, each with a slightly altered sea surface, atmospheric temperature and atmospheric humidity to add the element of chance in influencing weather conditions. He also includes a "preindustrial control run" that captures the climate of 1850, or a time before the rise in human emissions.

After zooming into a particular time and region to capture a target hurricane, Reed runs seven-day weather forecasts.

To identify the human fingerprint, they compare hurricane features over that week, such as rain rates, accumulation amounts, intensity and size.

His study of the 2020 North Atlantic hurricane season, one of the most active on record, discovered that climate change increased rainfall rates by 11 percent and rainfall amounts by 8 percent.

SCIENCE NEWS

Cache of exceptionally intact Roman swords, piece of a javelin found in a cave in Israel

BY ILAN BEN ZION

Four Roman-era swords, their wooden and leather hilts and scabbards and steel blades exquisitely preserved after 1,900 years in a desert cave, surfaced in a recent excavation by Israeli archaeologists near the Dead Sea, the Israel Antiquities Authority announced in Jerusalem last month.

The cache of exceptionally intact artifacts was found about two months ago and tells a story of empire and rebellion, of long-distance conquest and local insurrection.

Researchers, who published the preliminary findings in a newly released book, propose that the arms — four swords and the head of a javelin, known as a pilum — were stashed in the remote cavern by Jewish rebels during an uprising against the Roman Empire in the A.D. 130s.

The swords were dated based on their typology and have not yet undergone radiocarbon dating.

The find was part of the antiquities authority's Judean Desert Survey, which aims to document and excavate caves near the Dead Sea and secure scrolls and other precious artifacts before looters have a chance to plunder them.

The cool, arid and stable climate of the desert caves has allowed exceptional preservation of organic remains, including hundreds of ancient parchment fragments known as the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Those Jewish texts, discovered last century and dated to the first centuries B.C., contain the earliest known versions of the Hebrew Bible, as well as an assortment of esoteric writings.

Archaeologists returned to this particular cave near the desert oasis of Ein Gedi to document an inscription found decades earlier.

"At the back of the cave, in one of the deepest part of it, inside a niche, I was able to retrieve that artifact — the Roman pilum head, which came out almost in mint condition," said Asaf Gayer, an archaeologist with Ariel University.

But though the swords were found on the eastern edge of the Roman Empire, they were probably crafted in a distant European province and brought to the province of Judaea by soldiers in the military, said Guy Stiebel, a Tel Aviv University archaeologist specializing in Roman military history.

> *"Each one of them can tell you an entire story."*
>
> **Guy Stiebel,** Tel Aviv University archaeologist specializing in Roman military history

He said the quality of their preservation was exceptionally rare for Roman weapons, with only a small handful of examples from elsewhere in the empire and beyond its borders.

"Each one of them can tell you an entire story," Stiebel said.

Future research will focus on studying the manufacture and the origin of the materials to tease out the history of the objects and the people they belonged to — Roman soldiers and Jewish rebels.

"They also reflect a much grander narrative of the entire Roman Empire and the fact that from a small cave in a very remote place on the edge of the empire, we can actually shed light about those mechanisms is the greatest joy that the scientist can have," he said.

— Associated Press

Why some wild boars are surprisingly radioactive

BY KASHA PATEL

On April 26, 1986, the infamous explosion at a Chernobyl nuclear power plant unleashed large amounts of radiation into the atmosphere, an event that contaminated wildlife across country lines. The radiation levels seen in animals as a result has decreased in recent years — with the exception of one animal: the wild boar.

For years, scientists questioned why levels of a radioactive isotope known as cesium-137 have remained surprisingly high in wild boars rooting around Germany and Austria, while decreasing in other deer and roe deer. In a new study released last month, a team of researchers finally solved this "wild boar paradox." They uncovered that the main radioactive source is not the Chernobyl disaster but nuclear weapons testing from the 1960s.

"My mind was blown when I realized how relevant this source of radioactive contamination in general still is," said Georg Steinhauser, a radiochemist at TU Wien and author of the study. Steinhauser said people might not think that 60 years after a nuclear weapons explosion, wild boar populations would still be contaminated with radiation levels well above the regulatory food limit.

Researchers have previously proposed other explanations to no avail. Some thought the contamination levels in wild boars were actually decreasing, but the data didn't show up in the limited number of studied samples. Steinhauser previously suggested that perhaps the cesium dissolves better in fat tissue in wild boars and stays present longer, but subsequent research did not support that assertion either.

In the new research, Steinhauser and his colleagues took a step back and reinvestigated the amount and origin of cesium in wild boars. Working with hunters collecting wild boar meat across southern Germany, they measured cesium levels with a gamma-ray detector.

Radioactive cesium results from both nuclear weapons explosion and nuclear energy production. The element comes in different isotopic composition, cesium-135 and cesium-137, depending on the source. By analyzing the ratio of these amounts, the researchers can pinpoint the source of the radiation. From previous literature, the team knew a higher ratio of cesium-137 indicated a nuclear weapons explosion but a lower ratio is linked with nuclear reactors.



JOACHIM REDDEMANN

Radiation levels in wild boars from Germany and Austria remain surprisingly high 60 years after nuclear weapons testing.

In the nearly 50 collected meat samples, the team found 88 percent of the samples were above Germany's regulatory limits for radioactive cesium in food. Calculating the ratio of cesium isotopes in the samples, they found that nuclear weapons testing accounted for 10 to 68 percent of the contamination.

Even if the Chernobyl accident had never happened, "some of the wild boars would actually still exceed the regulatory limits for food safety limits only because of the weapons tests today," Steinhauser said. "I think this is pretty mind-blowing because they were 60 years ago."

Steinhauser said it's hard to attribute the nuclear weapons fallout to any certain location or test because the tests affected the entire Northern Hemisphere quite evenly. An enormous updraft occurs after an explosion, pushing material higher. By the time the fallout falls down to Earth, he said the radioactive material has evenly distributed higher in the atmosphere to create a truly "global fallout" phenomenon.

The wild boars probably ingested the cesium from contaminated deer truffle mushrooms, which they dig up and eat during the winter when corn and acorns on the ground are scarce, he said. Cesium seeps through the soil and is absorbed by the mushrooms, as if it were a nutrient. This also explains why observations show radioactivity levels in wild boar are higher in the winter. (Interestingly, the deer do not fancy deer truffles so much despite the name.)

While cesium from both the nuclear weapons testing and the Chernobyl accident spread through the soil, Steinhauser said, the mushrooms appear to have fully absorbed the source from the nuclear weapons testing so far. Cesium seeps slowly through the soil, sometimes only 1 millimeter per year, he said. Deer truffles, located between 20 and 40 centimeters, have already absorbed the "older" cesium from six decades ago. The "younger" cesium from Chernobyl has likely not fully integrated or is just now integrating at the soil depths where the mushrooms are located.

But it could be bad news when the cesium from Chernobyl does reach the mushrooms — radioactivity levels could go up higher.

"There's a chance that the levels will actually go up instead of going down as everybody anticipated," Steinhauser said.

Steinhauser said humans, including wild boar consumers, probably don't have anything to worry about because they would have to eat "insane" amounts of the animal to show meaningful amounts of radioactive material. Plus, wild boar available through stores and official channels in Germany are tested and regulated.

Radiochemist Ralf Sudowe, who was not involved in the research, said some of the study's results were "really surprising" to him. He said it has always been assumed that the radiocesium stems from the most recent release of radioactive fallout that affected the area, such as the Chernobyl accident in the case of Europe, but this study upends that assumption.

"This study clearly shows that the contribution from legacy sources, i.e., fallout from nuclear weapons tests, cannot be ignored when determining potential environmental consequences and health risks, which was news to me," said Sudowe, a professor at Colorado State University.

Nuclear chemist Rebecca Abergel, who was not involved in the study, was less surprised that nuclear weapons testing contributed a significant portion of contamination. She said it has been "known for decades that significant isotope contamination throughout the planet is a result of weapons contamination."

But Abergel, an associate professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said the study was interesting because it characterized and highlighted regional disparities in the contamination. Some of those differences may be because of localized factors, such as winds, animal migration or subsurface water flow.

Both Abergel and Sudowe applauded the study's method of radiochemical analysis and the advancement of being able to pinpoint a radiocesium source. The study's methods can be used to further understand the effects of weapons activity through time and to help determine other sources of contamination from radioactive materials, including smuggled material.

Sudowe said that being able to pinpoint the source of a radioactive release "plays an important role in being able to address and remediate the environmental consequences."

Overall, the study underlines the role that humans have in our environment, Steinhauser said. He said his study isn't promoting or opposing the use of nuclear energy but says "it has to be done responsibly."

"It's a cautionary tale that we have to take good care of our environment," Steinhauser said. "Once released, a radioactive substance can never be unreleased again — and nature doesn't forget."

SCIENCE SCAN

EGYPTOLOGY

Eau de eternity: Scientists are able to reproduce the piney perfume scent used in mummification

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

Biomolecular characterization of 3500-year-old ancient Egyptian mummification balms from the Valley of the Kings

Scientific Reports

What did mummies smell like?

Better than you might expect, recent research published in the journal Scientific Reports suggests.

Researchers have re-created a scent used in the mummification of an elite Egyptian woman circa 1450 B.C., dubbing it the "scent of the eternity."

Because information on the exact recipes used by ancient Egyptians during mummifications is scant, the researchers instead turned to residues in the now-empty urns that had contained the preserved organs of Senetnay, a noblewoman who watched over and breastfed the future pharaoh Amenhotep II during his infancy. Using mass spectrometry, they studied the remaining traces of the balm that preserved — and scented — the organs during the mummification process.

The balms used were complex, the study says, and contained the resins of a pine-related plant the researchers believe was larch, resin from Pistacia or dammar trees, and degradation products from what they believe were animal fats and plant oils. Beeswax and bitumen were also used in the balms.

The two jars studied didn't contain exactly the same mix of compounds; although they were similar, the one that once contained Senetnay's lungs held an aromatic resin that wasn't found in the jar that housed her liver. This could mean ancient Egyptians used different recipes for mummifying different organs.

"The ingredients in the balm make it clear that the ancient Egyptians were sourcing materials from beyond their realm from an early date," Nicole Boivin, senior researcher on the project, said in a news release. "The number of imported ingredients in her balm also highlights Senetnay's importance as a key member of the pharaoh's inner circle." Larch and dammar probably came from faraway places, suggesting that ancient Egyptian trading was more widespread than previously thought.

The researchers also worked with a perfumer and a sensory museologist to re-create the balms' piney perfume for an upcoming museum exhibition at Denmark's Moesgaard Museum. Their research was only possible because the urns were well preserved as technology evolved — an argument, they write, for "the importance of conserving cultural heritage under optimal conditions over the long term."



ISTOCK

An Egyptian mummy.

HEALTH & SCIENCE

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BIG NUMBER

32 percent

Nearly a third of U.S. adults — 32 percent — have a tattoo, and nearly a fourth (22 percent) have more than one, according to a report from the Pew Research Center. The findings are based on data collected in July from 8,480 adults, comprising a nationally representative sample. Tattoos were found to be more common among women than men (38 percent vs. 27 percent) and among younger adults (41 percent of those younger than 30 compared with 13 percent of people 65 and older). Most people (69 percent) said they had gotten a tattoo to help remember or honor someone or something. Tattoos, also referred to as body art, are created by injecting colored ink into the second layer of skin, known as the dermis — a process usually done without anesthetics and that can range from lightly to seriously painful. Health risks include the possibility of skin infection, allergic reaction to the dyes and the development of keloids, which are bumps on the skin resulting from an overgrowth of scar tissue. The Food and Drug Administration does not approve inks for skin injection, but tattoo inks are subject to oversight by the agency. In the past 20 years, tattoo inks have been recalled 18 times because of contamination. The FDA also offers an online tip sheet regarding health and tattoos, "Think Before You Ink: Tattoo Safety." Among the FDA's tips: "If you notice that the area seems not to be healing or if you notice a rash — redness or bumps — near your tattoo, contact the tattooist and your health care professional especially if you develop a fever." The FDA also does not oversee practices in tattoo facilities, which are subject to state or local health department regulations. Although intended to last a lifetime, tattoos sometimes can be removed or lightened, using lasers or surgery. The process, which can be painful, may cause scarring and tenderness and may not completely remove the tattoo. The Pew report also found that, today, 80 percent of Americans — including those with and without tattoos — believe that society is more accepting of people with tattoos than it was two decades ago.

— Linda Searing

FROM CONSUMER REPORTS

Keeping your balance, avoiding falls

BY MICHELE STANTEN



ISTOCK

Each year, about 3 million older people are treated in emergency departments for falls, so it's no wonder long walks and hikes can sound challenging sometimes.

But you can take on difficult terrain and maintain your walking balance. Doing so can ultimately make you more agile and steadier on your feet.

"On uneven surfaces, you use your sensory and motor systems, your cognition and your vision all to a greater extent than walking on a flat surface," says Emily J. Fox, an associate professor of physical therapy at the University of Florida in Gainesville and a clinical research scientist at Brooks Rehabilitation in Jacksonville. "The more you use those systems, the more you retain them as you get older."

The key is staying alert, adjusting how you walk and getting the right gear in advance. These simple steps can make it easier to keep your balance while walking and help make treks in the woods or on trails a relaxing experience rather than a nerve-racking one.

Preparation is key

Before you tackle tricky terrain, take the following steps.

Practice. Walk around your yard, across grass, mulch and rocky surfaces.

Strengthen your lower body. Simple squats (as you would to sit in a chair) and heel raises (rising onto your toes) target your legs, glutes and core. Easy balance training routines can help, too.

Get your eyes and ears checked. Your vision and inner ear systems are crucial for good balance. Correcting any problems will keep you more sure-footed.

Find the right shoes

Match the shoes to the terrain. Bulky, high-top hiking boots can be heavy and may impede the sensory information your feet and ankles pick up from the ground. Unless you're hiking up mountains with a heavy pack (which might make you wobbly), you probably don't need them. Lighter, low-top day hikers or trail running shoes with stable footbeds and nonslip soles are good choices for gravel and dirt paths. For smooth trails, a regular walking shoe may be enough.

Get a proper fit. If a shoe is too tight or too loose, you may be more prone to taking a spill. Before heading to the trail, walk around with your new shoes indoors to ensure they're comfortable and secure.

Consider walking poles

Try before you buy. "Poles can help you balance and feel more stable by widening your base of support," Fox says. But shop around: They come in various styles, and some have hand straps for convenience and security.

Take them for test runs. "Practice on a smooth, even surface to get used to the poles before walking on uneven surfaces with them," says Ruth Barclay, a professor of physical therapy at the University of Manitoba in Canada.

Ease into it. When using poles, "your arm muscles can fatigue a lot faster than your leg muscles," Fox says. Start with short outings on well-maintained trails and gradually increase the duration and difficulty of the terrain. If you use a walker or cane or have hand, elbow or shoulder problems, talk to a physical therapist before using poles, to help you choose what might work best.

Minimize distractions

Put away your phone. "The physical and mental demands are higher when the environment is less predictable," Fox says. "Anything that takes your attention away makes it harder." If you need to use your phone or want to take a picture, do it standing still — preferably on level ground.

Use a backpack or hip pack. Stow your keys, water and anything else you bring along. Keeping your hands free makes it easier to balance, and you don't have to worry about dropping anything.

Wear well-fitting clothes. Seams that rub, pants that slide down or shoelaces that keep opening can all divert your attention from staying steady on a path.

Adjust your walk

With every step you take, sensory nerves throughout your body relay messages to your brain, prompting changes in posture and walking pattern to accommodate varying terrain. Many adjustments happen automatically, but you can be proactive, too: Try slowing your pace, bending your knees slightly, engaging your core, taking shorter steps and picking up (rather than dragging) your feet.

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HEALTH NEWS

NBA owner Dan Gilbert donating $375 million toward stroke care, health research in Detroit

The family foundation of NBA team owner Dan Gilbert will give nearly $375 million for a 72-bed rehabilitation center for stroke patients in Detroit and a research institute that will focus on a genetic disease that afflicted his son, officials announced last week.

Gilbert, the billionaire owner of the Cleveland Cavaliers and founder of the Detroit-based, financial-tech Rocket Cos., had a stroke in 2019 and received extensive care in Chicago.

He said his foundation would create a $10 million fund to help low-income residents who get care at the new Detroit rehabilitation center.

"I'm forever grateful to the doctors, nurses, therapists and staff who helped me improve every day," Gilbert said. "However, while there I met many other patients who could not get all the rehabilitative care they need because insurance limited the number of hours covered."

The rehabilitation center will be managed by the Chicago-based Shirley Ryan AbilityLab and become part of an expansion by Henry Ford Health, a major Detroit health-care provider.

Gilbert's foundation is also creating the Nick Gilbert Neurofibromatosis Research Institute with Henry Ford Health and Michigan State University.

Nicolas "Nick" Gilbert died in May at age 26. Neurofibromatosis is a genetic disorder that causes tumors to develop in the nervous system, including the brain and spinal cord.

"Today, we double down on our commitment and honor Nick's passion for a future without neurofibromatosis," said his mother, Jennifer Gilbert.

— Associated Press

HEALTH SCAN

PEDIATRICS

If you were a big infant, your babies are more likely to be large, according to study in Norway

BY ERIN BLAKEMORE

Paternal and maternal birthweight and offspring risk of macrosomia at term gestations: A nationwide population study

Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology

Parents who were big babies are likelier to have offspring with high birth weights, new research from Norway suggests.

In an analysis published in Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology, researchers link parental birth weight to that of their children.

Though measures vary, fetuses weighing at or above 8.8 pounds — from 4,000 to 4,500 grams or more — are usually medically described as being macrosomic.

The condition is associated with birth complications such as shoulder dystocia, in which the shoulders get stuck during vaginal delivery, and can lead to maternal hemorrhages after birth. Though high maternal birth weight, maternal obesity, diabetes and carrying a baby past term are associated with the condition, until now it has been unclear whether both parents' birth weight affects the weight of their offspring.

To find out, researchers looked at data from 647,957 sets of babies and parents born in Norway between 1967 and 2002, matching the birth-weight data of parents born between 1967 and 2002 with that of their children, who were born between 1983 and 2017.

Among that group, 3.2 percent of the parents and 4 percent of their children were large babies. The children of parents with macrosomia had a "substantially increased risk" of high birth weight themselves.

If both parents had high birth weights, they had an 8.06 percent higher risk of macrosomia. The risk was also raised by 3.84 percent in cases where only the mother had a high birth weight and 2.34 percent in cases in which only the father had a high birth weight.

Just 3.6 percent of the babies born to parents without high birth weight were large at birth, compared with 23.4 percent of those babies born to parents who did have high birth weights.

Maternal obesity was also linked to a higher birth weight, even in mothers who did not themselves have macrosomia in infancy. Six percent of babies whose parents did not have macrosomia but had an obese mother ended up having a high birth weight, compared with 31 percent for babies whose parents both had macrosomia and whose mother had obesity.

Overall, the researchers write, "parental macrosomia tends to be passed between generations," though it is unclear to what extent genetics or habits play a role. More research is needed to determine whether screening for past macrosomia could identify high-risk deliveries, and the researchers point out that because their research used Norwegian data, it is not necessarily applicable to other populations.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 7.44 percent of all babies born in the United States in 2021 weighed above 4,000 grams. White parents in the United States were the most likely to give birth to a child with macrosomia.



ISTOCK



Trouble swallowing...

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An Iceland trip revealed the root of his baffling symptoms

MEDICAL MYSTERY FROM E1

"Going to Iceland saved my life," Pherson said of the trip he nearly canceled at the last minute.

Pherson, now 74, continues to travel overseas frequently as a national security consultant. Doctors near his Northern Virginia home and at NIH help him manage his complicated, unpredictable illness.

Missing the mark

In 2009 Pherson, an avid runner, began feeling intermittently short of breath. Early on, doctors assured him that his heart was healthy based in part on the result of a nuclear stress test, which uses a radioactive tracer to assess blood flow through the heart. Attention then turned to his lungs, and Pherson was treated for asthma. For several years he cycled through nearly a dozen medications and consulted multiple doctors, many of them allergists, but his breathlessness lingered.

It wasn't until Pherson's primary care doctor advised him to head to an ER after he had difficulty walking a block that doctors discovered blockages in four coronary arteries. After urgent quadruple bypass surgery Pherson learned he had been misdiagnosed years earlier, in part because of a rare condition called balanced ischemia in which multiple arteries are in essence equally affected, which can cause a false negative on a stress test. Pherson was told that his arteries showed blockages of between 80 and 90 percent.

Two weeks after bypass surgery, Pherson developed an intensely itchy rash on his lower legs that lasted a few days, then disappeared. For years the rash recurred periodically but only on his legs. Later it would morph into painful red spots the size of half-dollar coins that erupted all over his body and sometimes persisted for weeks.

By 2021 Pherson was beset by new symptoms: periodic fevers of 101 to 102 degrees late in the day, accompanied by chills along with episodic pain in various joints — a foot, wrist or shoulder — that lasted a few days. At times doctors struggled to determine whether a symptom reflected a reaction to a drug Pherson was taking or a sign of an unidentified disease.

Increasingly, blood tests indicated something serious was wrong. Pherson was anemic and his white blood cell count was elevated, sometimes shooting to 10 times above normal, a condition known as hypereosinophilia. He looked pale.

Between trips abroad he consulted doctors: allergists, a dermatologist, gastroenterologist, otolaryngologist, rheumatologist, oncologist and a "wellness" practitioner. Testing uncovered an incidental pancreatic cyst that was deemed benign but now required regular monitoring in case of malignancy.

The strategies Pherson had recommended in his book — come prepared, take notes, ask questions, try to forge "active partnerships" with doctors — didn't seem to be getting him very far.

"The focus seemed to be more on what drug to prescribe," Pherson said, rather than a holistic look at his condition. The specialists he consulted were conversant in their fields but often failed to communicate well with doctors in other specialties — or with him.

Work, as always, was a balm. "I've got a very busy schedule — 20 balls in the air at all times," Pherson said.

In September 2021 he and his wife, Katherine, and eight friends — among them a hand surgeon and a nurse — were scheduled to go to Iceland, a vacation that had been postponed twice because of covid restrictions. Pherson was especially looking forward to visiting his 100th country.

But a week before departure, concerned about his increasing shortness of breath, he had second thoughts and saw two specialists who had been treating him. The doctors were supposed to confer and let him know if they thought he should make the trip. Pherson said he never heard from either of them. "I just gave up on them and went. I said, 'They have a hospital in Iceland, let's go.' "



"I just gave up on [hearing back from two specialists] and went. I said, 'They have a hospital in Iceland, let's go.' "

Randolph H. Pherson

Meltdown in Iceland

For the first five days Pherson struggled with fevers, a swollen, painful right hand and breathlessness. On Sept. 30, after nearly passing out while climbing to the top of a volcano, he went to the ER in Landspitali University Hospital in Reykjavik where he was seen by a rheumatologist and a cardiologist and quickly admitted.

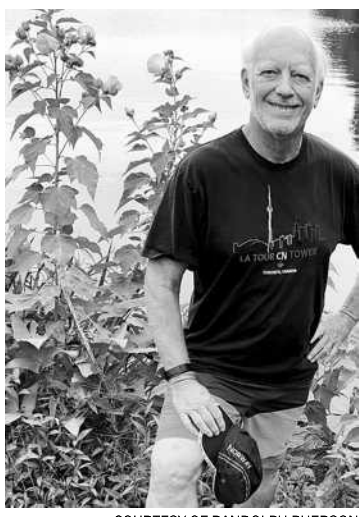
Pherson's fever spiked to 104 degrees and he grew so weak he couldn't lift his arm. Doctors treated him with antibiotics and intravenous fever-reducing drugs for suspected pneumonia.

But his breathing and kidney function worsened and tests revealed pericarditis, an inflammation of tissue that surrounds the heart, along with right-sided heart failure, a blood clot in his lung and chronic anemia for which he would receive a blood transfusion. Painful sores sprouted on his ankles and hands. At one point during his 18-day hospitalization Pherson experienced a hypertensive crisis when his blood pressure suddenly shot up to 207/112.

"I was crashing," Pherson recalled. One of his doctors told him that had he not sought treatment, he probably would have been dead within the month.

A rheumatologist suspected Pherson had a form of vasculitis, a group of uncommon diseases that cause inflammation of the blood vessels and typically strike people over 50. He began taking high dose steroids. The response was rapid: Pherson's fever dropped and his swollen hand improved dramatically.

Coincidentally, his Virginia dermatologist informed him that a skin biopsy performed before his departure seemed to indicate vasculitis. Based on the results of the biopsy of an artery performed in Iceland, doctors suspected giant cell arteritis, which causes inflammation in and around the head and scalp. But Pherson's other symptoms did not seem consistent with that disease, which often causes head pain and vision loss.



COURTESY OF RANDOLPH PHERSON

ABOVE: Randolph H. Pherson. LEFT: Pherson and family — Richie Pherson, left, Kathy Pherson, Amanda Pherson and Michael Pederson.

In an extraordinary stroke of luck, Pherson's Reykjavik medical team included rheumatologist Gunnar Tomasson, a longtime friend of Peter Grayson, chief of the vasculitis translational research program at NIH's National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. Both had trained at the same fellowship program in Boston.

Tomasson knew that Pherson lived in the D.C. area and wondered whether he might be suffering from a rare, newly discovered autoimmune disease called VEXAS syndrome, first described in a December 2020 article in the New England Journal of Medicine. Grayson was part of the international team that discovered VEXAS, and NIH was then one of the only places in the United States capable of performing the genetic sequencing necessary to diagnose it. Tomasson emailed Grayson, who expressed interest in Pherson's case, which had some features that are not common in patients with VEXAS, including hypereosinophilia.

VEXAS, an acronym based on the clinical characteristics of the disease, is caused by a genetic mutation of the UBA1 gene located on the X chromosome; the genetic defect is acquired, not inherited, and therefore cannot be transmitted to offspring. Doctors don't know what causes the mutation.

Because men have only one X chromosome, they are far more likely than women to develop VEXAS, which rarely occurs before age 50. Vasculitis can be one of the first signs of the disease, which is also characterized by skin rashes and unexplained fevers. Patients also experience progressive bone marrow failure requiring blood transfusions. So far more than 100 people have been diagnosed with the inflammatory disorder. VEXAS is estimated to affect roughly 1 in 4,000 men over 50.

"We think this is a disease hiding in plain sight," Grayson said. "We do know this is a life-threatening disease. The median survival from onset of symptoms is about 10 years." NIH is conducting a study to determine whether bone marrow transplantation is a treatment for VEXAS. The hope is that a transplant might reset the immune system, deactivating or eliminating the disease-causing gene. The clinical trial is limited to patients who have not responded to other treatments.

Coming home

On Oct. 19, 2021, Pherson, significantly stronger than when he was hospitalized but unable to take a commercial flight because of his blood clot and heart problems, took an air ambulance from Reykjavik to Dulles International Airport. From there he was transferred to Inova Fairfax Hospital, where he spent a week. During that hospitalization doctors drew blood that was sent to NIH for testing.

In February 2022 Pherson learned he had VEXAS. "It was kind of a relief," he recalled. At last he had an explanation for seven years of confounding symptoms but added, "I was a little bit anxious" because it meant that his life expectancy might be reduced.

Pherson takes steroids and other immunosuppressive drugs to manage his disease, which periodically flares up and has resulted in three hospitalizations since 2021. He continues to work and travel frequently. "I vary from 70 to 90 percent productivity," Pherson said. "I'm pretty stoic. . . . I just keep doing what I do until I can't do it anymore."

He and Grayson hope to increase awareness of the disease, particularly among doctors.

"I've never met a doctor who heard of VEXAS," said Pherson, who is enrolled in two studies at NIH. "We need to get the word out."

Grayson agrees. "Every time I give medical grand rounds anywhere there is always a lightbulb that goes off for a doctor in the audience," he said. "If you're a rheumatologist or a dermatologist or a hematologist and you've never heard of VEXAS, you need to do some learning. These patients are in your clinic."

Submit your solved medical mystery to sandra.boodman@washpost.com. No unsolved cases, please. Read previous mysteries at wapo.st/medicalmysteries.

If you don't like the sound of your own voice, there are several ways to alter it

AnyBODY

LISA MULCAHY

For many of us, hearing our own voice on a recording is a bit of a shock. "Do I really sound like that?" (Yes, you do, but more on that later.)

In a recent survey of 1,500 people, half said hearing their recorded voice was so harmful to their mental well-being that they would change it if they could.

When researchers at Mass Eye and Ear, a Harvard teaching hospital, asked people to listen to their own voices on a recording, 58 percent of the survey subjects said they didn't like listening to themselves; 39 percent found the sound of their voices troubling in normal — non-recorded — conversation, as well.

So why are so many of us surprised by the sound of our own voices, and what can be done to alter them? Read on for thoughts from experts.

Why do voices sound different on a recording?

"There are two ways sound is conducted when you speak," says Tricia Ashby-Scabis, senior director of audiology practices at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Rockville, Md.

"You hear yourself through both air conduction and through bone conduction," Ashby-Scabis says. "As a result, you hear a deeper, fuller, pleasing sound to your voice. When you hear a recording of your voice, however, you're only hearing ourselves through air conduction, so you lose that internal deep sound quality."

Air conduction uses the pinna (the external part of the ear), ear canal, tympanic membrane (eardrum) and ossicles (tiny bones inside the ear) to amplify your voice, while bone conduction transmits the vibration of the sound of your voice to the inner ear, and from one ear to the other.

Internally, your voice will have a lower tone. But on a recording, where air alone carries sound, your voice may assume a higher frequency — an accurate one, as far as others are concerned.

"If you listen to a recording of your voice, yes, that's actually what the rest of the world is hearing," says Matthew R. Naunheim, a physician and surgeon at Massachusetts Eye and Ear and assistant professor of otolaryngology/head and neck surgery at Harvard Medical School. Naunheim was one of the authors of the Harvard study on people's impressions of their voices.

Why don't I like my recorded voice?

When you hear yourself speak as you sound to others, it can mess with your internal expectations, and subsequently your self-confidence. The concept is called voice confrontation, and it was first studied by psychologists Philip Holzman and Clyde Rousey in the 1960s.

Holzman and Rousey found that when presented with what they really sound like, people tended to focus on the negative vocal qualities of their voices on recordings to the point of getting defensive about how they sounded.

"In psychology, there's the ideal self, and then there's the actual self," says Chloe Carmichael, a clinical psychologist in New York. "The ideal self is a little bit more aspirational, and that's not a bad thing. We need to have an aspirational mind-set to be healthy and functional. However, when people get confronted with reality . . . we realize that our voice doesn't actually sound as we hear ourselves. This can be jarring, and can produce insecurity."



ISTOCK

Can I change my voice?

Several interventions are possible, including vocal cord injections using collagen, gel fillers or Botox, Naunheim says.

"Vocal cords can also be pushed together, a treatment that was developed for paralysis, but it can act as a 'voice lift.' It's pitch modification," Naunheim adds. "Transgender and nonbinary patients have used this type of surgery to change the pitch of their voices."

But vocal cord surgery risks include bleeding, infection, hoarseness, breathing issues, chipped teeth during the procedure and undesirable results.

"If someone is dissatisfied with their voice without a medical reason, however — if someone says, 'My voice doesn't hurt, but I don't like it" — I recommend a conservative approach at first," Naunheim says. "For these patients, I generally discourage procedures for shortening, sharpening or elongating their vocal cords."

Voice therapy using airflow exercises can be a helpful, safe alternative, according to data from the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Increasing airflow through simple techniques — such as blowing through your lips or gargling — will help your vocal muscles relax, and help you to develop more resonance in your voice. A vocal coach can guide you through these exercises, which work best when practiced consistently.

Hormone replacement therapy can also help change vocal quality. It's commonly used in gender-affirming care for transgender and nonbinary patients, and it can be used in tandem with voice therapy.

Simple, safe steps toward change

Consulting a speech therapist, voice coach or singing coach can be a good way to get an analysis of your voice.

But "it's important if you visit an expert that you are willing to listen to their objective feedback," Carmichael says. "Ask yourself, is there anything else about myself I tend to be critical of? If so, it may be more helpful to work on your self-esteem and self-acceptance rather than your voice."

If you decide to work with a professional, you'll learn simple techniques to improve the quality of how you sound. Jessica Doyle-Mekkes, a vocal coach who teaches applied voice at East Carolina University's School of Theatre and Dance in Greenville, N.C., got personal benefit from the skills she now teaches.

"Working as a young actor, I often got critiques that my voice was too nasal-sounding," she says. "I worked with a voice teacher who told me that the key to losing the nasal quality to my voice was to relax my tongue more and release my jaw. Acoustically, the rule is 'more space equals more bass.' The warm, lower sound of bass is what the human ear finds attractive."

Reading a news article every day into your phone, and then analyzing where your voice needs improvement, is a great first step, Carmichael says. The more you do it, the more desensitized you'll be to the flaws you think you hear, and the easier they'll be to improve.

It's also important to take good care of your voice. This means:

- Not smoking
- Treating gastroesophageal reflux disease, or GERD
- Getting enough sleep and hydration
- Avoiding unnecessary throat clearing, coughing and whispering
- Working with a professional to improve your posture and learn vocal warm-up exercises.

The bottom line: "Good vocal hygiene, and working on your vocal technique, is much better than a risky procedure," Naunheim says.

WELL+BEING

Our best health advice from our first year of Well+Being

BY TARA PARKER-POPE



CHELSEA CONRAD/THE WASHINGTON POST

One year ago today, the Well+Being desk at The Washington Post published its first stories. We answered questions about vitamin D (most people get plenty from their diet and the sun) and the latest research on ketamine for mental health (early research is promising, but it doesn't work for everyone).

In the days that followed we shared news about the power of awe, how better sleep can lead to better eating habits and the perils of sitting all day even if you exercise regularly.

We chose the name Well+Being carefully, because we know that optimal health means both staying physically well "plus" nurturing your entire being — the body, the mind and all the relationships that matter most in life (including with our pets). At Well+Being, our goal has always been to empower you, our readers, with science-based advice to help you make informed choices about your health.

To celebrate our first trip around the sun, we've picked some of our best advice for living well everyday.

Forget 10,000 steps. There is nothing magical about 10,000 steps a day. So feel free to let go of that goal, writes Your Move columnist Gretchen Reynolds. New research shows that for men and women younger than 60, the greatest benefit came with step counts of between about 8,000 and 10,000 per day. For people older than 60, the threshold was a little lower. For them, the sweet spot for reduced mortality risk came at between 6,000 and 8,000 steps a day.

Stop eating predigested food. Many popular packaged foods — breads, cereals, snack chips and frozen meals — have been refined, pounded, heated, melted, shaped, extruded and packed with additives, explains Anahad O'Connor, our Eating Lab columnist. This extreme processing creates foods that are so easily absorbed by the body that they're essentially predigested. Many foods also are engineered to overcome our satiety mechanisms, which drives us to overeat and gain weight, experts say. While it may be tough to give up all processed foods, try to eat more whole and high-fiber foods — meats, fish, fruits and vegetables. And if you do choose food that comes in a package, check the label and try to buy those with the fewest ingredients.

Take time for 'joy' snacks. Here's an antidote to an ever-stressful, busy and uncertain world. Try finding and savoring little bites of joy in your day. Our Brain Matters columnist, Richard Sima, calls them "joy" snacks. Pet a cat. Savor a cup of coffee. Take an awe walk on a beautiful day. Listen to laughter and conversations on the bus. By mindfully tuning into the pleasant, nice and sometimes routine experiences of every day, we can transform an otherwise mundane moment into something more meaningful and even joyful.

Pay attention to your poop. One thing we've learned from our Ask a Doctor columnist Trisha Pasricha is that no topic is off limits with your doctor. Readers have asked a lot of questions about poop. A general rule of thumb is that anywhere from three bowel movements per day to three per week is within the range of normal. Most of the time, poop of a different color is nothing to worry about and probably a result of what you ate and how your body processed it. If stool is red, maroon or tarry black, discuss it with your doctor. It could be the result of something you ate (beets, anyone?) or a sign of a health condition.

Take pictures for your doctor. Another great tip from Pasricha is to use your camera phone to snap pictures of things that seem weird, including your poop. "We love seeing pictures of stool!" says Pasricha. If you get a tick bite, take a picture of the tick. Knowing exactly what type of tick can help doctors if you develop health problems in the weeks following the bite.

Try a more relaxed approach to goal setting. Amanda Morris, who writes about disability, noticed something important about the people she writes about: Their disability gave them new insights into setting more realistic, healthier and gentler goals. She came up with several great tips for goal setting. Focus on how you want to feel, rather than things you want to do. Don't set goals that drain you. Find a goal that empowers or replenishes you. Choose "numberless" goals. For instance, instead of trying to exercise a certain amount of time, try to "move in a way that feels good." And recognize your limits. It's okay to set a goal to do less! (And you can always quit if a goal is too daunting.)

Nurture your friendships. For better health, many people focus on the "big three" — food, fitness and sleep. But research suggests you should make friendship a health priority too, writes Teddy Amenabar. Platonic love trumps romantic love in a number of ways. People with strong friendships tend to have better mental health and studies suggest they're in better physical health, as well. Researchers have found large social networks lower our risk of premature death more than exercise or dieting alone. A six-year study of 736 middle-aged Swedish men found having a life partner didn't affect the risk of heart attack or fatal coronary heart disease — but having friends did.

Be your own therapist. In our first On Your Mind column, therapist Lesley Alderman offered a number of helpful tips to cope with the anxiety of a topsy-turvy world and events outside our control. It starts with just taking care of yourself, taking a break from the news and getting involved in your community. But you can also be your own therapist. Ask yourself, what do I specifically feel hopeless about and why? "Being able to put into words what's getting you down can help you feel less flooded by emotions and better able to process the information rationally," she writes.

Try a simple, speedy 11-minute workout. You can get an effective aerobic and strength workout at home, or wherever you happen to be, in less time than you might take for a coffee break. The workout consists of five simple exercises: high knees, squat jumps, scissor jacks, jumping lunges and modified burpees (no push-up required). There's one caveat: You must perform the exercises — or simplified variations of them — with sufficient enthusiasm and vigor.

You can build resilience at any age. Resilience is the ability to bounce back from adversity — a career setback, a relationship breakup or any of the big and small disappointments of daily life, writes Kelyn Soong. Much of the research on resilience focuses on building the skill in childhood, but resilience can be strengthened at any age. While resilience is essentially an emotional muscle, a growing body of research shows that stressing our physical muscles through exercise is one way to increase our capacity to cope with daily stress. So if you're feeling stressed, get moving. It will benefit your body and help you cope with life's big and small setbacks.

Take care of your ears. It really has been the year of the ear, with hearing aids going over the counter and new research confirming how important hearing is for brain health. In many cases, people don't even know they have hearing loss, so the first step is to get your hearing checked, writes Lindsey Bever. Age-related hearing loss nearly doubles the risk for dementia. But new research also shows that the use of hearing aids can reduce the risk of cognitive decline by nearly 50 percent among adults who have other risk factors, such as elevated blood pressure, higher rates of diabetes or those who live alone.

Feel good about your brain. While it may feel like your brain peaked in childhood, even aging brains can learn new tricks. The good news, writes Caitlin Gilbert, is that our brains — unlike other parts of the body — are built to change over our lifetimes. New research dispels the belief that plasticity, the brain's capacity to respond to change, diminishes in the adult and aging brain.

Experiences such as engagement in a community, lifestyle choices or exposure to stress can drastically affect brain development and aging. A 50-year-old who is highly social and regularly exercising, traveling or volunteering might have a "younger" brain than a 50-year-old who is largely isolated from others and rarely engages in enriching activities. And although late in life the brain does shrink in size and can begin to degenerate, older individuals also have the potential for greater wisdom built off a lifetime of experiences.

What's my risk of injury playing pickleball?

Ask A Doctor

JORDAN D. METZL



CHELSEA CONRAD/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

Q: *I love playing pickleball but am worried I might get injured. What's my injury risk when I play? How can I prevent getting hurt?*

A: As more people pick up the paddle, pickleball injuries are becoming an increasingly common sight — both in emergency rooms and in sports medicine offices like mine.

I've seen more injuries from pickleball than walking and swimming. But don't let that deter you from playing. The benefits — moving, having fun, building a community — far outweigh the risks.

So what should you watch out for? In pickleball, we see repetitive-use injuries, especially in the wrist and elbow, and sudden injuries from quick ballistic movements. Injuries commonly occur when lunging forward for a low shot, which can cause straining to a calf or hamstring.

Here's what to know about common injuries from pickleball and how to treat them.

How to treat common pickleball injuries

- **Calf strain:** Also known as "tennis leg," calf strain is often described by patients as feeling like being kicked in the calf. It commonly occurs when lunging forward for a low shot. Once you hobble off the court, check with your doctor to make sure this is a calf strain, which heals without surgery, and not an Achilles rupture, which is more serious. The age-old adage of RICE (rest, ice, compression and elevation) to treat injuries has been updated to MICE (movement, ice, compression and elevation) in the first 24 to 48 hours after injury. Although there's some controversy about the use of ice with acute injuries, it does reduce pain, so I tell my patients to ice the sore muscle for five to 10 minutes. Once you're through the initial stages, ice doesn't seem to help as much, but gradual movement and compression do. Depending on severity, calf strains can take anywhere from one to four months to heal.

- **Hamstring strain:** This usually also occurs when lunging forward for a low shot, but it takes longer to heal than a calf strain. The treatment depends on the location of the injury. The top of the hamstring where the tendon comes off the ischial tuberosity (sit bone) takes months to heal, while an injury in the middle of the muscle can heal in weeks. In all cases, starting some gentle movement like riding a stationary bike and starting a graduated strength program can help speed healing.

- **Wrist injury:** These occur with pickleball due to the twisting of the wrist, similar to table tennis. The most common injuries are tendinitis in the wrist, best treated initially with a wrist splint and rest for a couple of weeks. If the pain persists, get it checked out.

- **Elbow injury:** Pain around the elbow (commonly known as tennis elbow) is less common in pickleball than in tennis, but it can still happen. This is generally tendinitis on the outside part of the elbow and is best treated with backing off playing for a week or two. A physical therapist can prescribe wrist and forearm stretches.

- **Achilles' tendon rupture:** This is among the more serious type of pickleball injuries. Tendons, which connect muscles to bones, are difficult to heal because they have a poor blood supply. This injury is often treated with surgery, followed by physical therapy. It can take months or even a year to heal.

How can I prevent injuries?

With pickleball, the key to staying on the court and not in physical therapy is recognizing the warning signs. Small muscle cramps often precede a more serious injury, as does an overall sense of fatigue. If this is happening to you, back off for a bit and rest until you feel ready.

Before starting a game, do dynamic warm-ups — like jogging in place, jumping jacks, walking lunges and air squats.

Stronger and more pliable muscles mean less injuries. In addition to warming up the body, I have my patients bring their foam roller or massage gun to the pickleball court and use it before they play.

Prioritize strength training. I prescribe strength training for all of my patients, from 10-year-olds to 80-year-olds. But this is especially important for aging players. As we age, our muscles get weaker. For this reason, a quick lunge to the left to get a shot in a 20-year-old player may go unnoticed, while the same shot in a 60-year-old can result in a two-month injury from tearing a calf muscle.

Getting out to play pickleball is great for your health, and I'd rather see you on the court than in my office. To make pickleball as safe as possible, it's important to understand your body's limits and to employ strategies to keep yourself from getting injured.

Trisha Pasricha, MD, MPH, will return soon. Jordan D. Metzl is a sports medicine physician at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York. He is the author of five books on the intersection of medicine and fitness, including "The Athlete's Book of Home Remedies."

How experts prepare for covid

COVID FROM E1

infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University Medical Center: I am most concerned that a large proportion of the public will not take advantage of the new monovalent [coronavirus] booster that will become available in mid-September. That could lead to a substantial number of preventable hospitalizations and deaths.

Elizabeth Connick, chief of the infectious diseases division and professor of medicine and immunobiology at the University of Arizona: After the last three years, I have used up my "worrying" capacity. It has been depleted. We know that respiratory viral infections will be increasing, and the major question is, "How bad will it be this year?"

Joanna Dolgoff, a pediatrician with Wellstar Health System in Marrietta, Ga., and spokesperson for the American Academy of Pediatrics: I am worried about the return of the "tripledemic," meaning covid, flu and RSV. Each virus can cause significant disease. The effects only multiply when infection with more than one occurs. Most people are now so relaxed about the viruses that they are no longer taking the simple precautions necessary to keep these diseases at bay.

Ashish Jha, dean of the Brown University School of Public Health and former White House covid 19-response coordinator: I've been worried that the anti-vaccine sentiment directed toward covid will rub off against the flu. I look at this winter and think we're going to have three effective vaccines that can prevent a large chunk of deaths of older and vulnerable people. I worry that we're going to substantially underuse them, and it means tens of thousands of people will die unnecessarily.

Anthony S. Fauci, university professor, Georgetown University School of Medicine and McCourt School of Public Policy, and former director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases: I am not worried, I am just preparing for the possibility that we might have [a] surge of cases as we enter the fall and winter. We are already seeing an uptick in cases. Hopefully, the degree of background immunity in the population will prevent a significant increase in hospitalizations and deaths.

Q: Are you going to rush out to get the newest coronavirus booster as soon as it lands, or is it wiser to wait till the weather turns colder? Will you get a flu vaccine at the same time? What about the RSV vaccine?

Dean Blumberg, chief of pediatric infectious diseases at the UC Davis Children's Hospital: I would like the updated booster as soon as it is available. I'm planning on [getting the] influenza vaccine in October but will be monitoring influenza activity and will get vaccinated sooner if it turns out to be an early flu season.



ELIZABETH VON OEHSEN/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

Jha: We have a crazy situation with different viruses — RSV, covid and flu — peaking at different times. I told my elderly parents to get all three shots and just get it all done before Halloween. I have tended to recommend to my family to get the flu shot in October to give you better protection when the flu peaks in late January and February.

Robert T. Schooley, professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases and co-director of the Center for Innovative Phage Applications and Therapeutics at the University of California at San Diego: [**Update:** After this article published online, Schooley wrote to say that he'd tested positive for covid. He believes he got it from walking through a crowded bar on the way to an outdoor dining table. He had planned to get a covid booster as soon as possible, but is postponing it until December because of the immunity he gained from this infection. He received flu and RSV vaccines on Aug. 30.]

Demetre Daskalakis, acting director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases within the CDC: I'm ready to line up as soon as [the booster is] available. [Daskalakis said he plans to get the coronavirus booster and flu shot at the same time.]

Katie Lockwood, a pediatrician with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and associate professor of pediatrics, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania: Getting your covid booster and flu shot early in the fall is a good idea because although we often see viruses surge in late fall and winter, we never know exactly when that will happen, so being protected early is recommended and immunity will last through the season.

Schaffner: I definitely plan to receive all three vaccines — influenza, covid and RSV during October.

Monica Gandhi, professor of medicine at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine: I am still in my 50s so I do not qualify for the RSV vaccine, which has been approved for those 60 and older and pregnant women. However, I plan to get the influenza shot, which seems well matched to the circulating strains this season. I will encourage my parents, 88 and 82, to get the new XBB1.5 directed vaccine. However, since they contracted covid in July, I will ask them to wait 4 to 6 months.

Q: Are you starting to do anything differently to protect against the coronavirus and other viruses? Are you going to avoid anything in particular?

Donna Tyungu, associate professor and chief of pediatric infectious diseases at the Oklahoma Children's Hospital, OU Health in Oklahoma City: I am closely watching viral numbers within our hospital system (which have more than doubled what they were in July). I pay attention to the CDC website for national case and hospitalization statistics, and I also monitor wastewater cases.

My family has started to avoid large crowds a bit more than we were last month but are generally living life normally so far. I carry hand sanitizer with me, and I do plan on wearing a mask whenever I travel or find myself in crowded areas.

Schooley: I'll be monitoring viral activity over the course of the winter. In the case of covid-19, I'll rely mainly on wastewater data since case counts will not be as accurate going forward as they have been in the past.

With cases that are more often mild and confused as "colds," fewer people are being tested and, those that are, are more often using antigen tests but not reporting positive tests to local health departments. The CDC Fluview platform is an excellent source for influenza information. When either or both viruses show spikes in activity, I'll avoid poorly ventilated indoor locations and be more likely to mask when with others indoors.

Peter Hotez, dean of Baylor College of Medicine's National School of Tropical Medicine, professor in the departments of pediatrics, molecular virology and microbiology, and co-director of the Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development: I will get my XBB covid booster as soon as it is available. In the meantime, I have already gotten my RSV vaccine. I wanted to avoid getting the RSV vaccine at the same time as influenza vaccine. … Keep in mind your pneumococcal vaccine (Prevnar) as well, also Shingrix (for shingles) and TDAP, so there is a new wave of adult immunizations to consider.

Q: Will you eat (or continue to eat) inside restaurants as the weather gets colder and if covid continues to spike? Will you go to the movies, concerts, other big indoor events? Will you mask up when you do so? Have you been masking all along? What about church and singing there? Is that a big risk? How do you mitigate it? Indoor sports events?

Tyungu: Most likely we will continue dining out. We will avoid crowded venues. If hospitalizations become a major issue again, we will likely cook at home for a while. … I actually have some travel and events planned over the next few months. Based on the transmission in the area I will likely wear a well-fitted mask to avoid illness.

> *"I told my elderly parents to get all three shots and just get it all done before Halloween."*
>
> **Ashish Jha,** dean of the Brown University School of Public Health

Connick: I will eat in restaurants but try and select ones that are "airy." I will not go to movies or concerts. It is not worth the risk. I will probably avoid large crowds.

Dolgoff: I will continue to eat in restaurants as long as they are well ventilated and not overly crowded. If somebody near me shows signs of illness, I will be prepared to leave immediately. If covid cases continue to spike and if illness becomes more severe, I will stop eating inside restaurants until cases subside. I believe we need to see the effects of the new variants before we can make hard-and-fast rules

Blumberg: I am continuing with usual activities, including traveling. I'm a big believer in masking, so I'm comfortable at indoor or outdoor crowded events while I'm masked. I usually use a regular surgical mask for crowded outdoor events, but upgrade to N95 or KN95 if close to people indoors or on a plane.

Natascha Tuznik, associate clinical professor in the department of internal medicine at UC Davis Health: If covid continues to spike, then I will likely avoid unnecessary indoor environments. I have been masking up in health-care settings regularly since covid cases have gone up, both for my own protection and the patients. With our current covid trends and flu and RSV entering the picture, I foresee myself continuing this practice in the health-care setting, and, depending upon viral trends, when I am out in busier indoor settings, such as grocery stores.

Q: What pandemic protocols were you still following as of this summer? Did you mask in certain situations, for instance? Were you eating indoors at restaurants?

Blumberg: I stopped masking this summer, it felt weird sometimes to be maskless. But with covid rates increasing, I'm thinking of going back to masking while indoors at stores and other venues. I've maintained masking on planes — it's so crowded and people close by are sniffing and coughing, I'm not comfortable without a mask on flights.

Lockwood: Over the summer, I felt comfortable resuming normal pre-pandemic activities, including indoor activities without masks, due to lower rates of covid and my being vaccinated and boosted. However, I think the pandemic has forever changed how I feel about hand hygiene — I'm sanitizing quite often when out — and has made me more aware of the risk of going out with mild cold/allergy symptoms.

I'm testing myself often to make sure others are safe around me. I sneezed in the car today and my children both screamed at me "do you have covid?!" So I think we are all more aware of the potential risks around us, even when we overall feel safe.

Q: What are you telling friends and family about protecting themselves?

Schaffner: Those who are at increased risk of severe disease should use masks in crowded indoor events. One of our extended family members is receiving cancer chemotherapy, so, if you wish to visit, you must test negative.

Hotez: The single most impactful thing you can do is to keep up with your covid boosters and get your XBB covid booster as soon as you can; also other vaccines that you are eligible for.

Lockwood: There is so much that we can't control about the upcoming viral season that I tell my friends and family to do what they can about the factors we can control: wash your hands, stay home when sick, and get vaccinated for flu, and covid boosted if needed. If you have some sniffles or a mild cough, do not assume it is nothing and make sure you test yourself for covid or stay home.

Connick: Get vaccinated.

Q: For those with school-age children or grandchildren/also for pediatricians: Are you advising any special precautions for them (or for your patients)?

Tyungu: Within two weeks of my niece starting classes, she came home with a respiratory infection. My son will start preschool next week; I anticipate the same fate for him. These infections are expected when attending school, but there are some things we can do to mitigate risk. These include providing age-appropriate vaccinations, teaching children how to wash their hands and avoid touching their faces, explaining the importance of not sharing drinks or eating utensils with friends.

Jha: We should keep people home when they're sick and help them get better. We don't need to be spreading these viruses unnecessarily. Making sure everyone is up-to-date on vaccines will slow things down, and that includes kids. Good hand hygiene can help a lot for flu and other respiratory viruses.

Lockwood: So many of my young patients tell me that they chew on their pencils or bite their fingernails when I see them for sick visits shortly after school starts, and my advice is always that they need to wash their hands more often and keep nonfood items out of their mouths.

Lots of germs are shared at school, so it is important to keep your children home when they are sick. Last year's early RSV surge showed many parents what pediatricians know about RSV: It can be very dangerous for young infants.

I hope that parents offer their infants protection with nirsevimab [a monoclonal antibody for infants that works much like a vaccine], so that our youngest and most vulnerable patients can have a healthier fall and winter this year. Grandparents should make sure they are up-to-date with their vaccinations, including Tdap, flu, covid and Pneumovax, as many of them are caregivers for young children who can become seriously ill from these vaccine-preventable diseases.

Connick: Obtain appropriate age-related vaccines. It is impossible if you live with children to avoid getting covid.

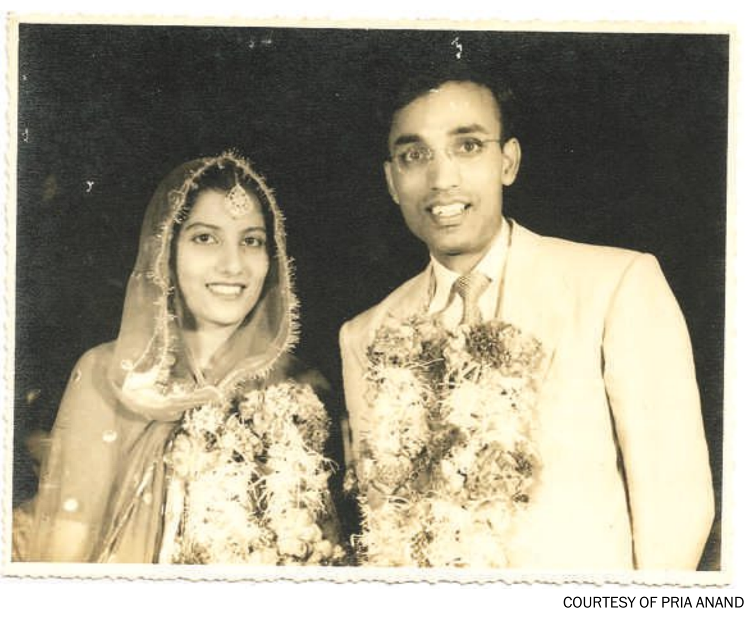
Dolgoff: Very young children are often unable to wear masks. It is more important to keep them out of risky situations, such as large, indoor group gatherings.

Tara Parker-Pope and Mary-Ellen Deily contributed to this report.

Childhood polio came back as he grew older

POLIO FROM E1

rigid. In his stool, and in the sewage systems of Rockland County and New York City, scientists found fragments of the poliovirus that had ravaged the man's spinal cord and left him paralyzed. This year, four children in Israel tested positive for poliovirus, and the virus has been detected in wastewater throughout Europe and Africa.



COURTESY OF PRIA ANAND

Pria Anand's grandmother and grandfather, Saroj and Ravi Prakash, on their wedding day in 1954.

This global reemergence seemed to be the result of a more contemporary pandemic: covid-19.

Pandemic lockdowns, overburdened public health infrastructures and burgeoning public mistrust of vaccinations have led to tens of millions of children missing essential vaccines, a devastating blow to herd immunity that the World Health Organization described as the worst setback to vaccination campaigns in three decades since its Global Polio Eradication Initiative was launched in 1988 with an elusive official mission of eradicating polio by the year 2000.

In response, scientists have redoubled their efforts: In June, two newly developed oral polio vaccines were featured in the journal Nature. The same month, Gavi, the organization that supplies vaccinations throughout much of the world, approved a new combination vaccine for distribution beginning in 2024. And an August article in Nature reported that Afghanistan and Pakistan — the only countries where wild poliovirus remains endemic — are closer than ever to eradication.

But polio has an insidious reach.

In the vast majority of people, polio causes no symptoms. About 1 in 4 of those infected will have mild symptoms, akin to a cold or stomach flu. Some 1 to 5 in 100 will have the symptoms of meningitis, neck pain and a fever. Just 1 in 200 people infected with polio will develop paralytic polio, in which the virus afflicts the brain and spinal cord.

Paralytic polio is as unrelenting and unforgiving as it is rare: The symptoms of paralytic polio are lasting, and even those who recover often relapse decades later, victims of a poorly understood "post-polio syndrome" that eventually afflicts the majority of the world's tens of millions of polio survivors. Like long covid, post-polio syndrome inevitably follows any polio epidemic, leaving a second, equally devastating epidemic in its wake.

I never thought about polio until 2013, when I was a medical student and my grandfather — then in his 90s — began to wither away from post-polio syndrome. His symptoms were barely noticeable at first — a hoarseness of his voice, already phlegmy with age, then a resonant snore that worsened my grandfather's already intolerable insomnia until she took to sleeping upright on the sofa.

Polio epidemics drove the invention of modern breathing machines — first the iron lung and later the ventilators we use in intensive care units today — but when he began to gasp for breath in his sleep, my grandfather — Ravi Prakash — made clear that he had no interest in intensive care.

That summer, I was entering my final year of medical school, still unsure what kind of doctor I would become. On a visit to India, I followed my grandfather to the neurologist, where he lay on an exam table, impossibly frail beneath a cloth gown.

The neurologist showed me the twitching fasciculations of my grandfather's atrophied left leg, the movements sudden and dysrhythmic, like a snake writhing in a cloth sack. Fasciculations, the neurologist explained, were the disoriented gasps of dying muscle fibers, contracting wildly and helplessly without a motor neuron to direct them.

By examining my grandfather's leg, his neurologist could understand something of his story, even prophesy his future — the rural village where my grandfather grew up without an underground sanitation, where he first contracted polio as a child, and the way that, in the months to come, my grandfather's faint cough would blossom into a painful, inexorable hack that made him afraid to eat.

It was hard for my grandfather to remember when in his childhood he contracted polio, but his case is far from unusual: Until the early 2000s, India bore 85 percent of the world's polio burden. Thanks to widespread vaccination, however, no new cases of polio have been reported in India in over 12 years. The heartbreaking irony of paralytic polio in the 21st century is that it is preventable.

My grandfather's death on Feb. 14, 2016, was not a tragedy. He died at 93, loved and exhausted. Three years before he died, with just the barest inkling that something in his body was failing, my grandfather dictated his autobiography. "My name is Ravi Prakash," he began. "I am 89 years and ten months old. I have seen the world around me change beyond recognition."

My grandfather lived to see the sequencing of the poliovirus and the development of the first polio vaccine. He lived to see polio eradicated in the United States, then India. He lived to see polio largely consigned to the dustbin of history. But it will require vigilance to keep it there.

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